P & O
SCOTCH WHISKY.
10 YEARS' OLD.
The Only "SCOTCH" supplied
TO THE GREATER BRITAIN EXHIBITION,
Rs. 2-12-0, PER BOTTLE.

The Bombay Gazette.

No. 51,814—NEW SERIES. BOMBAY :—TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1900.

ESTABLISHED 1818.
PETER F. HEERING'S
COPENHAGEN
CHERRY BRANDY.
Sold by all respectable Wine Merchants.

SHIPPING.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL COMPANY.

DEPARTURES FOR EUROPE.

WITH LIBERTY TO CALL AT BRINDISI AND MALTA.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	SATURDAY, 2 P.M. 1900.
* ORIENTAL	5294	J. F. Jephson	6th Jan.
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	13th "
* CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	20th "
M. L. ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	27th "
* ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	3rd Feb.
M. L. CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	10th "
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	F. H. Gordon	17th "
M. L. ARABIA	7901	J. L. Parfitt	24th "
* PENINSULAR	5297	W. Wheler	3rd Mar.
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	E. H. Gordon	10th "
* EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	17th "
M. L. PENINSULAR	5287	W. Wheler	24th "
* ORIENTAL	5294	J. F. Jephson	31st "
M. L. EGYPT	7912	G. Langbourne	7th April,
* SHANNON	4362	J. Chellew	14th "
M. L. CHINA	7899	T. S. Angus	21st "
* ORIENTAL	5284	J. F. Jephson	28th "
M. L. ARABIA	7903	J. L. Parfitt	5th May.
* CARTHAGE	5198	J. R. Lendon	12th "
M. L. CALEDONIA	7558	F. H. Gordon	19th "

The steamers marked M. L. proceed to Marseilles, Plymouth and London. Passengers for Brindisi transhipping at Port Said.

The Steamers marked * proceed to Aden only, and Passengers tranship there for Brindisi, Marseilles, Plymouth or London.

HEAVY BAGGAGE must be sent to the BALLARD PIER on FRIDAY AFTERNOON the day previous to Sailing, and CABIN BAGGAGE before 9 A.M., on SATURDAY. The attention of Passengers is called to the importance of having their Baggage Labelled with Port of Destination.

Tenders leave the Ballard Pier on day of sailing. All Passengers must attend at that place between 11 A.M., and 12-30 P.M., for medical inspection by the Health Officer of the Port, and no one will be allowed on board the Mail Steamer unless so examined and conveyed thence in the Company's steam barges. Special attntieon is directed to these regulations, which are imperative under the Venice Convention.

Friends of passengers cannot go on board the Mail Steamer.

TO COLOMBO, STRAITS, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

The Company's STEAMERS LEAVE BOMBAY FORTNIGHTLY, usually on TUESDAYS, taking Passengers for the STRAITS, CHINA, and JAPAN, and return Tickets are issued on favourable terms.

Cargo Steamers are despatched to China at frequent intervals, calling at Ports en route.

For further particulars apply to

F. C. ALLEN,
Acting Superintendent, P. & O. S. N. Company.
Bombay, 15th December, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S.N. Co.

UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT

TO TRIESTE DIRECT VIA ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID,

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on
IMPERATRIX	G. Morovich	4,213	1st Feb. 1900.
IMPERATOR	G. Klatteberger	4,149	1st Mar. 1900.
IMPERATRIX	G. Morovich	4,213	1st April. 1900.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.	Deck.
TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 600.	Rs. 325.	Rs. 156.

TO TRIESTE, VIA KURRACHEE, ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Steamers.	Captains.	Tons.	To sail on or about
VINDOBONA	C. Bellen	4351	7th Jan., 1900.
GISELA	F. Mocca	4233	7th Feb., 1900.
TRIESTE	A. Milis	5196	7th March, 1900.

PASSAGE MONEY BY THIS ROUTE.

	Saloon.	Deck.
TO TRIESTE OR VENICE	Rs. 375	Rs. 150.

RETURN TICKETS TO TRIESTE AND VENICE.

	1st Class.	2nd Class.
Available for 6 months	Rs. 990.	Rs. 675.
Available for 12 months	" 1,060.	" 695.

THROUGH TICKETS TO LONDON.

1st and 2nd Class Single and Return Tickets are issued via Trieste, the St. Gothards, and other Routes.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE MESSAGERIES MARITIMES CO.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Austrian Lloyd's and the Return Voyage by the Messageries Maritimes Co., at reduced fares.

This arrangement will prove of special advantage to passengers on three months' privilege leave.

Steamers leave TRIESTE for BOMBAY direct on the 3rd and those via KURRACHEE on the 23rd of each month.

Passengers to VENICE tranship at TRIESTE to another steamer of the Company, which takes about 6 hours to cross the Gulf.

STEAM TO COLOMBO, PENANG, SINGAPORE, HONGKONG, YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

Steamer.	Captain.	Tons.	To sail on or about
FRANZ FERDINAND	G. Nicolich	6,014	22nd Jan., 1900.

For further particulars, Freight, Passage &c., apply to

E. SCARPA, Agent.
Sassoon House, 2, Church Gate Street, Bombay, 1st Jan. 1900.

HOMEWARD PASSAGES.

GRINDLAY, GROOM & Co., BOMBAY,
GRINDLAY & Co.,
CALCUTTA,
BANKERS AND AGENTS.

PASSAGES booked without charge, and on favourable terms. Berths carefully selected.
SLEEPING Car and CONTINENTAL RAILWAY TICKETS procured.
TEA PLANTERS, RAILWAY OFFICIALS, MISSIONARIES, booked at reduced rates.
PASSAGES booked to ENGLAND *via* JAPAN and AMERICA, by the Canadian Pacific Occidental and Oriental and Pacific Mail Routes.
HANDBOOK giving details of Fares, &c., and of Sailings by all Lines sent FREE on application.
PASSENGERS met on arrival.
BAGGAGE shipped and cleared and Insurance effected covering all risks.
PACKAGES cleared or shipped.
CIRCULAR NOTES, BANK NOTES, DRAFTS, and SOVEREIGNS at current rates.

London Agents : GRINDLAY & CO

THOS. COOK AND SON,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

PASSAGES PROMPTLY ENGAGED by P. & O. Mail, and all other Steamers, including non-Liners FREE of CHARGE for COMMISSION.

SPECIAL ATTENTION given to the selection of berths and Social Grouping of Passengers.

THROUGH TICKETS issued available from any Railway Station in India to all parts of the Globe.

CONTINENTAL TRAVELLING TICKETS issued allowing breaks of Journey at all places of interest.

PASSENGERS with COOK'S Tickets met and assisted at all Chief Continental Ports and Cities.

REDUCED RATES to Railway Family employes, Parties and Missionaries.

OUTWARD PASSAGES engaged and Tickets supplied from any part of the world to India.

HOTEL COUPONS available at over 2,000 Hotels.

REDUCED FARES for Military Officers, Government Officials, and Missionaries to Europe via China and America.

HEAVY BAGGAGE received, forwarded and insured.

LIFE and ACCIDENT INSURANCE policies issued.

CIRCULAR NOTES and LETTERS of CREDIT issued for the use of Travellers in all parts of the World.

DRAFTS issued at the Exchange of the day.

SOVEREIGNS, BANK NOTES, and Foreign money bought and supplied. CURRENT ACCOUNTS kept, and Interest allowed when the Credit Balance does not fall below Rs. 1,000.

DEPOSITS received. Rate of interest on application.

INTEREST, PAY and PENSIONS collected and every description of Banking and Money Agency transacted.

Hand book of information free on application

BOMBAY : 13, Esplanade Road.
CALCUTTA Old Court House Street.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED,

Intend to despatch Steamers as follows :—

FOR KURRACHEE DIRECT.

S. S. "DUMRA," 1,695 tons, on the 5th January, at 2 p. m., or later, on arrival of the English Mail.

FOR COAST PORTS AND KURRACHEE.

S. S. "PACHUMBA," 867 tons, on the 3rd January, at 10 a.m., calling at Veraval, Mangrole, Porebunder and Cutch Mandvie (weather permitting).

FOR KURRACHEE AND PERSIAN GULF.

S. S. "ASSYRIA" 1,495 tons, at 10 a.m., on the 4th January, calling at Kurracheer Muscat, Jask, Bunder Abbas, Linga, Bahrein, Bushire, Fao, Mahomerah and Basrah, in the foregoing or any order, (weather permitting).

FOR ADEN, MOMBASSA, ZANZIBAR AND LAMOO.

S. S. "CANARA," 1,902 tons, on or about 26th January.

FOR SEYCHELLES, MOMBASA AND ZANZIBAR.

S. S. "KHANDALLA," 2,040 tons, on or about 12th January.

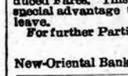
FOR MANILA.

A THREE-WEEKLY direct service has been started from Calcutta to Manila, calling at Rangoon, Penang and Singapore. Rates for Passengers and Cargo, and dates of sailing can be obtained from the Undersigned.

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & Co.,
Agents.
Bombay, 30th December, 1899.

KING, KING & CO.,

BANKERS AND EAST INDIA AGENTS, BOMBAY.



PASSAGES engaged by P. & O. and all Steamers at the lowest rates obtainable free of charge or Commission.

Lists of the LATEST SAILINGS, with Fares and full information as to berths available, furnished at once.

Special attention paid to the grouping of those wishing to travel 2nd Class, P. & O. Every assistance rendered to Passengers arriving in Bombay for embarkation. Baggage taken over at the Railway Stations and shipped.

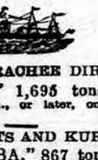
THROUGH RAILWAY TICKETS from any Station in India to Bombay, and Tickets for all Continental Routes furnished on application.

SPECIAL AGENTS of the Firm meet all Steamers at BRINDISI and MARSEILLES.

PACKAGES of every description received for despatch as CARGO to Messrs. Henry S. King & Co., London; or Messrs. King, Baillie & Co., Liverpool. Freight and Marine Insurance effected at the Lowest Rates. QUOTATIONS FURNISHED on APPLICATION.

KING, HAMILTON & CO.,
CALCUTTA.
HENRY S. KING & Co., LONDON.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.



FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

TO MARSEILLES DIRECT.
VIA ADEN, SUEZ, AND PORT SAID.

Vessels.	Tons.	Captains.	To sail on THURSDAY.
OCEANIEN	4,249	Schmitz	18th Jan. 1900.
CALEDONIAN	4,232	Boucard	15th Feb. 1900.
INDUS	6,300	Chevalier	15th March, 1900.
SYDNEY	4,232	Aubert	12th April, 1900.
YARRA	4,255	X	10th May, 1900.

TO COLOMBO, SINGAPORE, JAVA, SAIGON, TONQUIN, CHINA, AND JAPAN.

S. S. "LAOS," 6,300 tons, Captain Flandin, to sail on or about the 10th January, 1900. For weekly departures thereafter.

INTERCHANGEABLE TICKETS WITH THE AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S S. N. Co.

The Company are now in a position to issue RETURN TICKETS available for one way by the Messageries Maritimes, and the return voyage by the Austrian Lloyd's at Reduced Fares. This arrangement will prove, in some cases, of special advantage to Passengers on three months' privilege leave.

For further Particulars apply to

C. RUINAT, Agent.
New-Oriental Bank Buildings, 67, Esplanade Road, Bombay

GERMAN EAST AFRICA LINE.

BOMBAY—ZANZIBAR.

THE following Steamer will SAIL:—

Vessel.	Tons.	Capt.	to sail on
SETOS	1,746	Carstens	19 Jany. 1900

taking cargo and passengers for Lamu, Mombassa, Tanga Daresalam, Zanzibar and all ports South of Zanzibar, upto Delagoa Bay.

This Line also issue First, Second, Third Class and deck through tickets to EAST LONDON, ALGOA BAY, CAPE TOWN, MADEIRA & SOUTHAMPTON, in connection with the Union Line Mail Steamers, from Delagoa Bay once a month.

For rates and particulars apply to

F. HEYER, Agent,
Albert Buildings, Hornby Road.
Bombay, 29 h December, 1819.

LATHAM & Co.,

BOMBAY : Esplanade Road. KARACHI : Bunder Road.

DESPATCH PARCELS AND CARGO as follows :—

United Kingdom—Weekly.
United States of America—Weekly.
Canada and British North America—Weekly.
Germany and Austria—Bi-monthly.
Italy—Fortnightly.
Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand—Fortnightly.
China, Japan, and Straits Settlements—Weekly.
South America—Monthly.
Aden—Weekly.
Regular Despatches to South Africa, West Indies *via* Southampton and Liverpool.

The above Despatches are by Mail steamers, but shipments are effected by cargo steamers sailing constantly for Continental Ports at Greatly Reduced Rates.

SPECIAL attention is given to the clearance of goods through the Custom House, and Consignees and Importers in India may rely upon their interests being most carefully studied. A large and experienced staff is kept constantly employed on the Bunder and at the Custom House, and goods are cleared and despatched with the utmost expedition, and needless charges are thus avoided.

Residents in India should insist on their correspondents forwarding their packages to the care of LATHAM & Co.

CONTRACT RATES furnished to large Importers, Clubs, Messes, &c., for clearance of goods.

WHISKIES.

TREACHER & CO.'S
WELL KNOWN BRANDS.

HIGHLAND MALT.

FINE OLD GLENLIVET.

SPECIAL LIQUEUR.

OLD IRISH.

PURE, WHOLESOME, AND RELIABLE, AND AT A REASONABLE PRICE.

TREACHER & CO., LIMITED,
BOMBAY. BYCULLA. POONA.

FOR SALE.

LIFE BELTS & LIFE BUOYS
ACCORDING TO BOARD OF TRADE REQUIREMENTS.

APPLY TO

SHALEBHOY TYEBJEE AND SONS,
SHIP CHANDLERS, 18 AND 20, DALAL STREET, FORT.

THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE "BAHADUR"

CATALOGUE.

"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS"

BRAND.

THE "BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS"

Brand is the latest addition to our List. They are packed in

Boxes of 100, each Cigar being Ringed with a "BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS" Ring.

"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS" Extra large 5 inches, Rs. 37-8.

"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 1, 4½ in., Rs. 31-6.
"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 2, 4 in., Rs. 29-0.
"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 3, 3¾ in., Rs. 27-8.
"BAHADUR QUEEN EMPRESS," No. 4, 3 in., Rs. 24-0.

PACKED in BOXES of 50, at an extra charge of Re. 1 Per 1,000.

PACKED in BOXES of 25, at an extra charge of Rs. 2 Per 1,000.

ILLUSTRATED LEAFLET FREE ON APPLICATION.

McDOWELL & CO., LD.,
MADRAS AND LONDON.

GENUINE
HUSCHKE'S
COLOGNE WATER.
(LEADING BRAND SINCE 1842.)

HAS been imported into THIS COUNTRY CONTINUALLY and in increasing quantities for the last 40 years. This fact proves that its excellent qualities are well understood and appreciated by the public. Imitations have reached this market and inferior brands have been put forward, bearing labels closely imitating the Genuine Huschke 3 Star Label. All such imitations will be prosecuted, and the public are requested to beware of them, and to see that the label on each bottle and box bears the 3 Stars in Blue, and on the back of the Label, as seen through the bottle, the inscription :

"GENUINE HUSCHKE'S COLOGNE WATER"

To be had from all Chemists and Druggists in every part of India.

RUSTOMJEE MANECKJEE & CO.,
18, PARSEE BAZAAR, FORT, BOMBAY.
SOLE DEALERS IN INDIA AND CEYLON.

CHRISTMAS AND OTHER PRESENTS.

STERLING SILVER WARE.

		Rs.
SILVER	Circular Ash Tray, Ornamented Horse Shoe and 2 whips	85
"	Spirit Cigar lighters, Tea-pot shape	35
"	Cigarette Case, plain Rs. 23, 35, 60,	75
"	" enamelled Poker hand "These are great Days"	70
"	" Diagonally Fluted, heavy	75
"	Cigar " fluted to hold 4 Cigars	80
"	" " " 5 Cigars	105
"	" Cigarettes one side, Cigars the other	110
"	Safety Match boxes, holding at the side slip for striking matches	14
"	Fusee " " Hall marked	88
"	" and Sovereign Case Rs. 34, 32,	21
"	Cigar Box, holding 50 Cigars, 8 3-4" long, 5" wide, 2 3-4" high,	200
"	Cigarette Box holding 100 Cigarettes, 7 1-2" long, 3 1 2" wide, 3 1-2" high,	100
"	Mounted Cabinet Photo Frames Rs. 12, 16, 22, 26,	28
"	" " " Heart Shape Rs. 15,	20
"	" Carte-de-visits Rs. 8, 9, 10,	12
"	Lady's Card Cases, in leather case Rs. 26, 27,	42
"	Gents " " " "	26
"	Napkin Rings from Rs. 7-8 per pair in case to	27
"	Mounted Lady's companion	31
"	Manicure Sets in handsome case Rs. 16, 24, 26, 35, 50,	80
"	Waist clasps, new designs Rs. 7, 10, 8, 11, 12, 14,	21
"	" Buckles " " Rs. 10-8, 13-8,	12
"	Lady's Cycle Match Boxes	8
"	Hair pin boxes Rs. 32,	34
"	Perfume, Solid Screw top, 5" high, 2 1-2" diameter	501
"	Mounted, Cut Glass Scent bottles Rs. 5, 12, 13, 12-8,	26
"	" Smelling Salts Rs. 9, 12 and	26
"	" Scent bottles in handsome leather case Rs. 25, 53,	80
"	Inkstands, one bottle Rs. 38, 54, 70 and	92
"	" " two bottles Rs. 200,	306
"	Mounted leather pocket books	12
"	" Cigar cases	18
"	Spirit binocular in brown leather case	250
"	" flasks	56
"	Sugar tongs and 6 Tea-spoons	48
"	" " 12 "	70
"	Salt cellars and spoons, pair in case	48
"	" " " set of 4 in case	130
"	Child's knife, Mug, spoon and fork from	120
"	Christening Mugs Rs. 32,	55
"	Camden Whist Markers in case	110
"	Pair Fish Carvers, Ivory handles in case	90
"	Coffee and Tea Service with 16" Tray	1,260
"	Cups, plain polished from	45
"	" fluted and raised "	100
"	Purse, with handsome watches, complete	32
"	Mounted Spirit bottles "Whisky"	32
"	" " " Cut glasses Rs. 25, 32,	35

MARCKS & CO., LD.,
BOMBAY AND POONA.

FAVRE LEUBA & Co.,
SWISS WATCH MANUFACTURERS.

ALL REQUIRING an accurate, elegant and durable TIMEKEEPER should select a WATCH of our MANUFACTURE and bearing our NAME and TRADE MARK.

They are obtainable through any dealer in India or Burma, or direct from our head office for the East.

22, HAMAM STREET, BOMBAY,

We won in open competition at the CALCUTTA EXHIBITION, 1883-84, the only GOLD MEDAL which was awarded for the actual manufacturing of SWISS WATCHES.

FAVRE LEUBA AND COMPANY,
HEAD OFFICE.
22, HAMAM STREET, BOMBAY.
ESTABLISHED IN INDIA OVER 0 YEARS
NEW AGENTS WANTED.

XMAS BAZAAR OPENED
AT
BOMBAY PERFUMERY MART,
WHERE YOU WILL FIND THOUSANDS OF ARTICLES SUITABLE FOR
XMAS, BIRTHDAY AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.
LATEST NOVELTIES OF THE SEASON JUST UNPACKED.

VARIETIES OF PRESENTATION CASES.
NICKEL PERFUME FOUNTS.
NICKEL PUFF BOXES.
NICKEL SOAP BOXES.
RHINE VIOLET.
VIOLET DE PARME.
BABY PRESENTATION CASES.
CHOICEST PERFUMES.
CHOICEST SOAPS.
MULHEN'S LAVENDER,
THE KING OF ALL LAVENDERS

AN INSPECTION EARNESTLY SOLICITED.

AT 93, MEDOWS STREET, FORT.

IMPORTANT TO CYCLISTS.

(The Triumph of the Creation is the Creation of the "Triumph")
Patronized by Royalty.

"THE RESILIENT TRIUMPH"

Has lately caused great commotion in the cycling world.
It is a Natural Spring Frame Bicycle of a register design.

The forks and frames of the RESILIENT, LADIES' AND GENTS', are so designed as to absorb the vibration before it reaches the rider, and at the same time to increase the strength of the frame by causing the strain to be distributed evenly over the entire machine. "Experts declare that the purpose of the "RESILIENT TRIUMPH" has been successfully accomplished, and as a natural sequence this type of machine is coming rapidly to the front as a first favourite."

British Journal of Commerce of July, 1899.

The attention of riders in the districts is specially drawn to the Resilient Triumph which is the most comfortable and easy-running bike on rough roads.

IMPORTANT.—The vibration-absorbing qualities of the Resilient "Triumph" will be apparent to anyone who after having subjected it to a fair trial returns to a rigid diamond frame, when the difference in comfort of the "Resilient Triumph" will be found to be enormous.

The speed qualities of this machine are proved by the fact that Mr. W. S. Yeoman, of the Silverdale C.C., mounted on a standard pattern Resilient Triumph beat the Lands End to London Unpaced Record, by 2hrs. 37mins. on October 3rd, 1898, covering the entire distance in 25 hrs. 58 mins.

For fully illustrated catalogues, apply to the Sole-Agents :—

THE BOMBAY AND PROVINCIAL CYCLE SUPPLY A[GENCY]
Charni Road, Bombay, (Near Messrs STEPHENS and SONS'
(Orders are being registered to prevent disappoint[ment])

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOR SALE, SECOND-HAND ICE MACHINE.

FOUR Ton Ice Machine, Second-hand, by Seebe German and Co, for Sale in Zanzibar. For further particulars apply to,

MESSRS. MACKINNON MACKENZIE & Co.

NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN that on the 31st December 1899, Adolphe Alexandre Guillaume Prier de Saone and Eugene Segner ceased to be PARTNERS in the FIRM of PRIER DE SAONE & Co.

The Firm will be CARRIED on by Heinrich Stauber and Guillaume Adolphe Prier de Saone, who are now the SOLE PROPRIETORS thereof.

(Signed) PRIER DE SAONE & Co.

WE have THIS DAY OPENED a BRANCH OFFICE at BOMBAY. Mr. G. F. P EICHNER is authorized TO SIGN OUR firm in Bombay.

MOLL SCHUTTE & Co.,
Calcutta.

Bombay, Markur's New Building's, Apollo Street.

THE STANDARD. A SCOTTISH LIFE OFFICE of 74 years' standing, and one of the wealthiest and most progressive of the Provident Institutions of the United Kingdom.

PREMIUMS MODERATE.
CONDITIONS LIBERAL.

F. A. PREVOST,
Secretary,
Bombay.

THE FUNDS have increased FIFTY PER CENT. during the last 15 years, and now amount to over 9 MILLIONS STERLING.

LATHAM & Co.,

BANKERS AND ARMY AGENTS.

SHIPPING, FORWARDING, COMMISSION AND GENERAL AGENTS.

BOMBAY AND KURRACHEE.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and conducted free of charge and interest allowed.

FIXED DEPOSITS received at rates of interest to be obtained on application.

TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCE AND REGULAR HOME PAYMENTS arranged at the best rate of exchange of the day. Client's ADDRESSES CODED free of charge.

SOVEREIGNS AND BANK NOTES bought and sold at the most favourable rates.

PAY AND PENSIONS collected without charge and without life certificates.

LOANS AND ADVANCES made on approved securities.

PACKAGES forwarded to Europe and America by Eastern Express "at frequent and regular intervals" thus offering the cheapest and best Express Service before the public.

BAGGAGE AND CARGO shipped by "HOME XPRESS," at low rates, and to parts of the World. Reliable Agents in every Port.

PACKAGES arriving at Bombay and Kurrachee cleared and forwarded up-country with promptitude and economy.

Property of every description carefully warehoused and stored. Articles of Indian art and Manufacture received and packed securely for transit and forwarded and delivered at destination.

INSURANCE—Marine and Fire—effected at current rates.

Represented in London, Liverpool, and Paris by

GEO. W. WHEATLEY & Co.

TO LOVERS OF ART.

THE establishment in the "First City in India" of a high class and fashionable Art Gallery, fitted up in the most approved and artistic style, where artists and their patrons can at all times meet to their mutual advantage, and to the advancement of Art itself, has been our desire for some years past; but the difficulties in the way of its fulfilment have been so great that the scheme has had to be abandoned—for the time being at least. We are persuaded that were we able to secure the influential support of these in high places and the help of lovers of Art in the Presidency, the Gallery would be a *fait accompli*. Another object of ours in wishing to form an Art Gallery is that we may be able to educate the native mind, by furnishing the people with an opportunity of viewing and comparing European work with the crude and absurd productions they have been accustomed to, cultivate a refined and more artistic taste in them. Surely this worthy desire ought to have the encouragement it reserves from all true lovers of Art!

In submitting our new Catalogue to the public, which can be obtained on application, we desire to place this object prominently before them, at the same time thanking them for the patronage and support they have already given us. It has enabled us to place the concern in some degree in as favoured a position as some of the leading Picture Dealers' establishments in London or Paris; so far, at least, as India is concerned.

A new feature, as will be seen in the present issue of the Catalogue, is that we have included all the different lines of business which we undertake in one and the same cover, whereas in former years they were printed in separate handbooks, leaflets, &c., necessitating a deal of needless repetition.

It has, therefore, been our endeavour to spare the public the tediousness of the task of looking through a number of separate prints for what they require, by compiling the present issue in as concise and handy a form as possible, adding to it an Index—a feature that was not possible to introduce in the former erratic sort of publications.

Of course, we are sensible of many defects in this our first venture: the principal one being the impossibility to embody in a trade catalogue a complete list of our stock of Engravings. We would, therefore, request those seeking any known engraving not enumerated herein to communicate with us.

We have, further, the pleasure of notifying our *clientele* of our removal into more spacious and conspicuous premises, the address of which we would ask them to kindly take particular note.

Hoping for a continuance of the esteemed patronage and support of our customers, and the public in general,

D. B DINSHAW & CO.,

BOMBAY FINE ART GALLERY
ESPLANADE ROAD,
Opposite Bombay Club.

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SALE OF ONE BUNCH OF 377 PEARLS, INCLUDING ONE MOST VALUABLE PAIR OF PEARLS AND ONE FINE EMERALD.

Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOANSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction, THIS DAY, TUESDAY, the 2nd January, 1900, at 3 p.m., at their Sale Rooms, No. 4, Forbes and Medows Streets, Fort, by order of Soorujmull and Callidas and Co., and on account and at the risk of Chintoopunt Raghunath Cookde—

1 bunch of 377 pearls, including one most valuable pair of pearls (about 75 chavs).
1 fine emerald (about 2 3-4 rati).

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.,
2nd January, 1900.

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SOUVENIR SILVER TEA SPOON of BOMBAY.—Momentos of the City of Bombay. The handle carries the Municipal Coat of Arms, cased in dozens, half dozens and quarter dozens, and can be had singly without cases.—MARCKS and Co., Ltd., Bombay and Poona.

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WANTED, IMMEDIATELY, for a State in Kathiawar, an Experienced ENGINEER, 'L. C. E. Salary Rs. 75, risings to Rs. 100. Apply to "A. B. C." care of this Paper.

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FIRST SALOON.....	Rs. 750	Rs. 730	Rs. 790	Rs. 750	Rs. 700	Rs. 285	Rs. 630
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	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
FIRST CLASS 4 months...	1,100	1,050	1,000	1,180	1,180
Do do 12 do ..	1,300	1,250	1,200	1,380	1,380
SECOND CLASS 4 do ..	800 & 875	750 & 825	700 & 775	.....	.....
Do do 12 do ...	900 & 975	850 & 925	800 & 875	.....	.....

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PAID-UP CAPITAL £500,000
RESERVE FUND £300,000

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47 THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E. C.

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Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Colombo, Kurrachee, Delhi, Rangoon, Mandalay, Tuticorin, Kandy, Newera Eliya, Zanzibar, Steamer Point, Aden, Cawnpore and Mombassa.

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ROBT. R. ROSS,
Acting Manager.

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INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.

CAPITAL £800,000
RESERVE FUND..... £500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS £800,000

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JOHN STIVEN,
Agent.
Bombay Agency, Elphinstone Circle.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL..... Yens 12,000,000
PAID UP CAPITAL..... " 12,000,000
RESERVE FUND ..... " 7,500,000

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PAID-UP CAPITAL	40,00,000
RESERVES AND REST.....	11,13,575
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Special rates are given for Short Terms Deposits during the busy season.

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N. B.—The Bank will also transfer sums for Deposit or Credit in London, carrying interest from date of transfer in India.

Accounts are opened and Receipts issued in the name of "either or survivor."

CHEQUES, BILLS, HUNDIS and CURRENCY NOTE of any Circle are collected and credited, free of charge, in and of the Interest Deposit Accounts.

CREDITS, LOANS, BILLS, and PROMISSORY NOTES negotiated.

INVESTMENT ORDERS on London Stock Exchange under Code with London Branch.

Rules and Particulars obtainable at any office of the Bank.

By Order of the Board,
F. D. STRANACK,
Manager.
Bombay, 30th June, 1899.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid up Capital.....$ 100,00,000
Reserve Fund .....$ 110,00,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors ... $ 100,00,000

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SIR THOMAS JACKSON, *Chief Manager.*

London Bankers.—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LD.

LONDON COMMITTEE:

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F. D. BARNES, Esq. (Managing Director, P. and O. S.N. Co.)
G. E. NOBLE, Esq., 34 Inverness Terrace, Bayswater, W.

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CHARGERS, Polo Ponies, Hacks and Carriage Horses Selected for Local and Up-country Constituents. Horses Shod on the most approved principles under Personal Supervision.

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	Rs.
Horses standing at Livery, on Commission Sale, or for treatment including Syce per mensem	25
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	12
Examination and Certificate	16
Verbal opinion as to Soundness	5

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" 6 " 5 " "
" 3 " 4 " "

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With Turnpin Side	50	28	16
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With Cur	50	24	13
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60	25	12	5

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BANKS.

	Shares.	Amount.	Paid-up.	Last Half Yearly. Divid.	Cash Rate.
INDIAN BANKS.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Bank of Bombay	20,000	500	all	10 p. c. & 1 bon.	1,260
Bank of Bengal	40,000	00	all	10 pr. ct.	1,200
Bank of Madras	10,000	500	all	10 pr. cr.	1,160
Commercial	{1,000 / 15,000}	100	{100 / 75}	6 p.c.	90
Bank of India.					
EXCHANGE BANKS.					
Agra	1,00,000	£8	all	3 pr. ct.	80
Charter Bank.	40,000	£20	£20	10 pr. ct.	£29 1-2
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	[80,000	dol. 125	all	£1-10-0	£671
National Bank of India	40,000	£25	£12 1-2	8 pr. ct.	

SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANIES.

Ahmedabad Advantage	70	1,000	Half 000	yearly. Nil	
Alliance	1,300	1,100	all	Nil	205
Anglo-Indian	1,345	...	0	Nil	22
Assur Veerjee Mill Ltd.	In all 2000 Shares of which 1002 have been allotted.	Rs. 500 each	Fully paid up	Rs. 25 12 1-2	nom.
Aurangabad S. & M. Co., Ld.		1,000	1,000	6%	
Baliary S.& W. Co., Ld. (Bellary)	971	60	all	9 per ct.	1,00
Borsar Manfg Co., Ld	2,750	550,000	200	12 1-2	135
Bombay United	90	1,000	1,000	Nil	350
Bombay Cotton Manfg. Co.	90	500	500	dvdRs 2	425
Bombay National Manfg. Co., Ld	500	1,000	1,000	...	90
Britannia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.5	300
Bombay Woollen Manfg. Co. Ltd	650	1,000	1,000	10 per ct.	1,000
Central India.	1,000	500	500	dvdRs.5	1,060
China Mills Co. Ld.	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.3	435
City of Bombay Mills	800	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.2.	550
Colaba Spg. & W. Co.	6,000	100	100	9 per ct.	1
Connaught Mills	630	500	500	25	525
Colaba Land & Mills	4,000	70	...	Rs. 10	390
Coorla Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs. 2	390
Currimbhoy Mills	80	1,000	1,000	dvdRs80	600
David Mill	1,400	500	500	dvdRs3.	290
Dhulia Ginning and Pressing Co. Ld.	[400	250	all	dvdRs20	255
Dhun Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	150
Empress	2,100	500	500	Nil	250
Framjee Petit.	1,250	1,000	1,000	Nil	280
Hindustan ... in gujarat Mills	875	1,000	1,000	Nil	290
Howard and Bulloughs	700	500	500	40	670
Hope Mills	1,500	500	500	50	600
Hyderabad	500	1,000	1,000	30	450
Imperial Cotton	700	1,000	1,000	30	1,220xd
Indian Manfg.	900	500	500	Nil	160
Indo-China Manufacturing Co., Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvd 30	4.0
James Greaves,	700	1,000	1,000	dvdRs 50	500
Jaffer Alli	1,100	500	500	dvdRs 25	450
Jamshed Manufacturing Co.	600	500	500	dvdRs 20	220
Jewraj Balloo.	1,500	2.0	250	Nil	12
Junioo Mills Co., Ld	1,000	1,000	1,000	no dvd	375
Khandeish	8,430	1,000	1,000	2	300
Khangaum Manfg. Co.	7,500	1,500	1,000	dvdRs65	650
Khatao Makanjee	{1,000	250	250	65	500xd
Leopold	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs.25	400
Lord Reay Mfg	3,500	100	105	dvdRs.5	150
Laxmidas Spinning & Weaving Co.	445	1,000	1,000	30	200
Madras United	1,000	1,000	1,000	Rs 30	615
Mahalxmee	356	1,000	1,000	Rs 105	2,600
Mahomedbhoy	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	75
Mahboob Shah Mills (Gulburga)	8,100	500	500	pr ct.	...
Manockjee Petit	4,000	1,000	1,000	vd 60	1,680
Mohanlal K. Parekh G & Mfg Co. Ld., Amraoti	300	100	11	dvdRs15	...
Nazagon	5,000	250	...	dvdRs. 5	45
Morarji Gocul-dass	1,050	1,000	1,000	dvdRs15	1,320
Mysore S. & M. Co., Ld	4,000	250	250	dvdRs15	200
Madura Mills	7,775	100	100	Nil	...
National	4500	1,000	1,000	Nil	pa 52
New Great Eastern	1,400	1,000	1,000	Rs. 2	120
Oriental	5,725	625	25	dvd Nil	10
Presidency Mills, Co.(Ld).	742	1,	1,000	dvdRs50	575
Queen Mills	800	1,000	1,000	Rs.50	540
Ripon Mills	600	1,000	1,000	Nil	700
Saaraswati Mills	1,250	500	500	Nil	500
Sassoon	1,50.	1,000	1,000	dvdRs22	500
Sholapore Mills	500	1,000	1,000	dvdRs75	1,725
Soondardas	750	1,000	1,000	Rs30	325
Southern India	1,00.	500	500	Nil	100
Southern Mahratta	[1,212	250	250	dvdRs 12½	235
Sun Mills, Ld.	1,300	250	250	Rs. 15	225
Standard Mills Co.	1,000	1,000	500	15	130
Star of India	1,000	1,000	1,000	Nil	660
Swadeshi Mills	3,000	500	500	dvdRs22½	525
Sassoon and Alliance	3,000	500	500	dvdRs20	295
Union Spinning and Manufacturing Co.	500	1,000	1,000	50	
Union Mills Ld.	1,000	1,000	1,000	dvdRs20	250
Venkatesh Lukhmi-shunker Co. Ltd.	[900	500	500	dvdRs40	410xd
Victoria Mills	950	1,000	1,000	Nil	2
Western India	1,200	1,000	1,000	dvdRs50	225
Wadhwan City Ginning Pressing & Manufacturing Co. Ld.	400	50	all	dvdRs	25
Wadia Mills	1,000	1,000	1,000	s1	...

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

G. I. P. R. Consolidated Stock	...	£100	...	...	...
B. B. & C. I. R. Co. New £12 Shares	...	£10	...	...	...
Ahmedabad Prantej Ry.	500	500	..	4 pr. ct.	607½
Tapti Valley Ry. Co.	500	500	...	4 pr. ct.	477½

PRESS COMPANIES.

				Yearly.	
Akbar	200	1,250	1,250	125	1,300xd
Albert Ginning Co.	100	500	all	18 pr. ct.	410
Albert (Kurrachee)	200	1,100	1,100	Rs. 80	725
Bellary	167	1,000	1,000	dvd 14 x	16
Bhowaggur City Press & Manfg. Co. Ld	550	250	250	25	275
Bombay Cotton Broula Canapore Press Co., Ld	1,000	125	125	Nil.	75
Broach City Press Co., Ld	500	200	200	dvdRs30	180xd
Colaba	600	200	200	dv Rs 20	200xd
East India	500	1,850	1,850	dvdRs 15	315
English Press and Manfg	350	1,000	1,000	125	1,325
Fort	400	200	...	dvd Rs 9	60
French	150	8,300	500	dvd Rs20	690
Harvey and Sabapathy	3.0	500	500	dvdRs 40	510
Hingoli Press Co., Ld	450	450	500	dvdRs3.	340xd
Khangaum	700	100	100	Rs 17	133xd
Mahuva Press Co., Ld	240	450	450	dvdRs 80	475xd
Mahmadbhai & Cotton G. and P. Co., Ld	300	200	all	15 pr. ct.	225
Mercantile	300	500	500	53	55
Mofussil Co	600	125	125	dvd Rs 5	60
Muguar M.	125	400	400	dvd Rs3.	392½
New Bera.	000	25)	all	dvd Rs20	180
New Indian	00	500	500	dvd Rs50	490
Prince of Wales	00	125	125	dv Rs12½	142½
Sabapathy (Bellary)	100	500	00	20	165
Sassoon	500	500	500	70	310
Sind and Punjab Co.	300	500	500	20	310xd
Sind	100	1,500	1,000	12½	585
Sorab Woollen Mills	400	2,000	750	20	1,300
Surat Lit. Press Co., Ld.	200	250	250	Nil.	325
Volkart	37	200	all	1	75
	...	000	..	Rs 80	9

AFTER some inconclusive recrimination between General Pelloux and various members of the Opposition, the Chamber rejected by a majority of 109 votes a motion of censure brought forward by Signor Barzilai. I understand, adds the correspondent, that the general effect of the agreements recently entered into between England and Italy in regard to Erythrea and the Soudan will be practically to extend to the Italian colony the scale of tariffs imposed on Egyptain imports into the Soudan, Signor Fredinando Martini, Governor of Erythrea, will shortly leave for Cairo "en route" for Massowah. While at Cairo he and Lord Kitchener will sign the Anglo-Italian Agreement, which cannot well be signed by the direct representatives of the British and Italian Governments without raising the delicate question of the Ottoman Suzerainty.

BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h. 34m. Sun sets, 5h. 35m. High water, 2-2m. 2-17a. Lower water, 8-11m., 7-55a.
Bank Holiday.
Arrival of General Low, Victoria Terminus, 7 p.m.

MUSIC.—The Band of the 21st Bo. I. (Marine Battalion) will not play this evening at the Royal Bombay Yacht Club.

BOMBAY NATIVE DISPENSARY.—The following is the statement for the month of December, 1899:—Daily average attendance, 175; admissions, 1873, prevailing diseases, fevers and dysentery.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN EXPEDITION.—We have to notice the "record work" of shipwright contractors in connection with the South African Expedition on board the Government hired transport s.s. Nairung:—Messrs. Rustomjee Shapurjee and Company, shipwrights contractors, built and completed a galley and bakehouse with funnel, wash-room with basins, &c., complete, bedded and stored fresh water tanks, made new hatch ladders with rails and executed all such sundry work as required by Government regulations in 60 hours only, which is an unprecedented record work in Bombay harbour.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A DOCK LABOURER—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at the J. J. Hospital, regarding the death of Gool Mamoot, a Mahomedan dock-labourer, aged about thirty years. The deceased resided at Jail Road. About two weeks ago in the evening, Gool was splitting wood with a chisel and hammer, when the chisel slipped off his hand and struck him on the right foot causing a wound thereon. Some household remedies were applied to the wound and he remained off his work for a few days. Finding however that the foot was getting worse, he went to the J. J Hospital, where he was admitted. Three days after symptoms of tetanus set in, his condition grew worse, and he died on Sunday. The jury returned a verdict of death from tetanus following a wound on the right foot, which was accidentally received while chopping wood.

A FAREWELL GATHERING.—A number of masons met at the Masonic Hall, Poona, on Saturday evening, to bid farewell to Bro. Sandell, P. M., who is leaving Poona. Khan Bahadur D.D. Khambata made a touching little speech, alluding to the services rendered by the departing Brother, both in the craft, the M. M. and R. A., wished him prosperity wherever he went, and voiced the feelings of those present in saying that they deeply regretted his departure and respected him highly as "a man and a mason." Bro. Sandell thanked the brethren for their kindly wishes, regretted his departure from Poona, and hoped that masonry would still continue to increase and flourish here as ever. The proceedings which were marked by the greatest enthusiasm and goodwill amongst the repre entatives of all the degrees working in Poona, were a fitting testimony to the esteem in which Bro. Sandell is held amongst the masons of the district.

THE CITY MORTALITY.

THE Municipal Office returns for the twenty-four hours ending at 6 a.m., yesterday, give the following results:—

Wards.	Plague. Attacks.	Deaths.	Deaths from all Causes.
A Upper Middle and Lower Colaba, Fort Northern, Fort Southern and Esplanade	2	2	11
B Mandvi, Chukla, Umarkhadi and Dongri	9	2	31
C Market, Dhobi Talao, Finaswadi, Bhuleshwar Khara Talao and Kumbharwada	17	1	47
D Kheradi, Girgaum, Chowpatty, Walkeshwar and Mahalaxmi	2	3	16
E Mazagon, Tarwadi, and Nagpada, Kamathipura, Tardeo, Byculla and 1st Nagpada	9	1	58
F Parel, Sewree and Sion	2	1	11
G Mahim and Worlee	0	3	24
Water Division	0	0	0
Non-resident and unknown	0	0	0
Hospitals	0	22	47
Total	41	35	243
Total plague deaths to date	60,756	53,383	

DAMAUN.

Friday, the 29th December, was the fourth day of inoculations at Mr. Damaunwala's residence, where Dr. Kalapesi inoculated 34 persons, making the total of four days' inoculations to 458 consisting of Parsees, 155; Dooblas, 73; Dhorlas, 71; Naiks, 30; Sootars, 18; Borahs, 15; Machis, 13; Banias, 12; Bramins, 12; Pardesees, 9; Christians, 9; Sonars, 7; Khojahs, 6; Konknis, 5; Bhandaris, 5; Bhoisars, 5; Parbhoos, 4; Dhobis 2; and other Hindoos, 7. With the exception of Dr. John and Moniz, and his family, no Christian took advantage of these inoculations, probably, being unwilling to forego the complete enjoyment of the Christmas holidays. In April, 1898, when plague was raging and it was known that the chief plague authority on the Damaun frontier granted passes to cross the cordon on production of inoculation certificates, more than 1,100 persons, principally Machis and Banias, obtained the benefit of Mr. Damaunwala's charity by submitting themselves to be inoculated by Dr. Dubash. Now that the plague has not yet assumed an epidemic form, the people including, even some Parsi families, remained indifferent, and hence the number of the inoculated did not come up to even 500. Dr. Kalapesi left Damaun for Bombay on Friday night.

AN OFFICER POISONED AT POONA.

A YOUNG Civil Engineer has died from ptomaine poisoning at the Thompson Civil Engineering College, Roorkee. Mr. Cyril V. E. Pringle, as a dinner last week began with a number of other diners, of some tinned salmon, and the following day several gentlemen were taken suddenly ill, Mr. Pringle among them. The others recovered, but notwithstanding the assiduous care of Major Dawson, the Civil Surgeon, Major O'Sullivan, the army medical officer, Assistant-Surgeon Thampson of the College, and Assistant-Surgeon Fraser of the Army Hospital, Mr. Pringle after rallying once or twice succumbed on Friday night. The deceased was buried with military honours on Saturday, the coffin enshrouded in the Union Jack being borne to the cemetery on an artillery Gun Carriage, Colonel Clibborn, R. E., the Principal, all the other R. E. Officers, and the whole of the College Staff with the students Civil and Military attended the funeral. The Engineering College, Worshops, Foundries, Office, &c., were closed as a mark of respect to the deceased who was a very popular and promising young officer of exceptional ability. He was only 20 years of age.

M. LOCKROY has been consulted by the *Figaro* as to whether France is in a position to wage that naval war against Great Britain which the Nationalist journals have recently been demanding with such violence. The ex-Minister of the Marine spoke out clearly. He declared:—The English are more than twice as strong at sea as we are. They have close on 600 war vessels of all kinds to which must be added 300 or 400 merchant steamers ready to be armed for war. The English could alone face France and the Triple Alliance. Not only is the number of their warships formidable compared to those composing the French fleet, but their organisation is incontestably superior to that of all the other navies of the world. I do not speak of the personal valour and intelligence of the French naval officers and sailors, which are in no way inferior to those of the English. Indeed, the English acknowledge it themselves. Everywhere, in every sea, our fleet finds itself confronted with a British naval force double or treble its strength, commanded by young officers. In every sea the English possess naval stations, that is to say, ports where they can revictual, coal, find ammunition, and repair any damage their ships may have suffered. As for us, we have no shelter ports, or scarcely any. With the exception of Toulon, we have nothing worth anything in the Mediterranean—only think of the position of a French fleet damaged in the Mediterranean by a battle off the coast of Algeria, and forced to cross the whole Mediterranean to repair and renew its stock of ammunition and provisions, at the risk of being blown out of the water. The English possess Gibraltar on one side, and Malta on the other. We could have something at Bizerta, in Tunisia, and in Corsica, but there is no fortified port in Corsica, and Bizerta cannot boast of more than twenty-four guns.

THE Cairo correspondent of the *Daily Mail* states that Ali Dinar, the Sultan of Darfur, after defeating Dafallah, the last of the insurgent chiefs in the Soudan, has offered his submission to the Government. The Sirdar has sent a mission to El Obeid to prepare the way for the occupation of Kordofau. It is expected that governors will soon be appointed for Darfur and Kordofan. It is hoped that the work of clearing the White Nile of "Sudd," for which the Egyptian Government has voted 10,000*l*, will materially increase the water supply, and result in more flourishing crops next summer.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

NAGPUR NOTES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NAGPUR, DECEMBER 31.

THE City Fathers of our Municipality and members of the District Council have met together and presented an address of welcome to the Chief Commissioner, Mr. L. H. Fraser. It was a very interesting little function and Government House presented a lively appearance on this occasion. The address was couched in a most typical manner and evinced feelings of great satisfaction at the nomination of a devout Provincial Officer as Chief Commissioner. The Honourable Mr. Chitnavis had the honor of reading and presenting the address on behalf of the representatives of the people. The address was enclosed in a beautiful silver casket. The Chief Commissioner was deeply moved and made a very sympathetic reply, promising the members that he had at heart the characteristic points contained in their address and that he would leave no stone unturned to meet their wishes in every way. That their prayers towards the relief of the poor, the destitute, and the famished needed their co-operation.

The week has been very busy for Nagpur. Amongst the various functions, the distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Bishop School, Nagpur, took place on the 15th instant in the main hall of the school. The parents and the relatives of the pupils and a large contingent of friends, well-wishers and benefactors of the school witnessed this annual present function. The Chief Commissioner Mr. Fraser was in the chair, and Mrs. Fraser had the pleasant duty of giving away the prizes and every body who received them at her hand appeared quite happy and smiling. Mr. Barlow, the honorary secretary of the school, in a lengthy report dwelt on the usefulness of the Institution ever since it was established as far back as in the year 1812 by Bishop Cotton who has throughout India founded so many schools, and that a comparison of those old registers with those now in use definitely proves that the Bishop School here has considerably improved during the 87 years of its existence.

H. H. the Nizam accompanied by a large retinue arrived at Nagpur by a special train at 2-30 a.m., on Friday, the 22nd instant. His stay here was very brief, lasting only for 2 hours, and he left for Calcutta by the mail at 4-30. His Prime Minister passed through Nagpur on Thursday. The Nizam's arrival here was quite private.

The recognation of Mr. F. W. Dillon, Barri ter-at-Law, as Government Advocate in the place of Mr. B. K. Bhose who has been appointed as Member of the Legislative Council has given general satisfaction. Among the members of the Bar in Nagpur, Mr. Dillon holds a high professional reputation and the fluency with which he dwells specially in summing up his case bears him out as a distinguished speaker. Indeed Mr. Fraser, the Chief Commissioner, could not have bestowed this coveted position on a better member of the Bar than Mr. Dillon.

Mrs. Jeffreys, wife of the General Commanding the Jubbulpore District, has collected on behalf of the Widows and Orphans Fund in Africa a nice little sum of Rs. 1 095 by means of subscriptions. Great credit is due to Mrs. Jeffreys for organizing so benevolent a scheme, and we can only hope her success will be the means of inducing others of her sex to render help in this disinterested work.

The Roman Catholic Orphanage who have really a very large number of destitute children on their rolls at present sadly need being provided with a suitable Christmas dinner. A subscription list has been started, and it is hoped that the charitable public will contribute substantially towards this treat, specially the Eurasian community who are in a better position.

The tennis court of the N. V. R. Institute, Nagpur, were crowded by a very large number of children and members of the Institute with their paterfamilias on Thursday, the 21st instant.

The Christmas tree was a source of delight to the younger generation, and the beautiful ornaments hanging were distributed. This was followed by sports and later on by a dance. Everything in connection with the Christmas tree proved a most enjoyable one, and the honorary secretary, the officers of the corps and the members of the Institute and Volunteers subscribed handsomely towards this get up.

For the first time in the annals of the Catholic Church, the New Year is to be welcomed with a pontifical High Mass at midnight and the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11-30-p.m. on the 31st to 8 a.m., on the 1st January, 1900. This is in accordance with the decree promulgated by His Holiness Leo XIII., on the 13th November, 1899, and the decree will be in force for the next three years.

The Bengal Nagpur Railway Institute also had their annual Christmas *fete*. The children were provided with beautiful toys, cake, &c., and the older generation had a dance.

The Comptroller, Post Office, is soon expected in Nagpur to organize and put into ship-shape form the new office, and already Mr. Burke, belonging to the Department, is here.

The sanitary condition here is not quite satisfactory. The plague is still amongst us; though cases daily occur in the city, the disease cannot be said to be in an epidemic form. Long complaints and fevers are still prevalent and claim many a victim.

STRANGE ACCIDENT IN PARIS,

A SERIOUS accident, happily (says the correspondent of the "Morning Post"), but almost miraculously, unattended with loss of life, occurred on Saturday evening on the works which are now approaching completion of the Paris Underground Railway. The scene of the disaster was the Place de l'Etoile, but a stone's throw from the Arc de Triomphe. A little after eight o'clock a portion of the tunnel, which is some sixteen yards wide caved in leaving an enormous chasm in the middle of one of the most frequented thoroughfares in the capital. According to eye-witnesses the spectacle offered was most extraordinary. The only warning of what was about to happen was an ominous rumble, immediately followed by a shock as of a slight earthquake. The trees, of which there are many at this spot, swayed backwards and forwards wildly, and the lamp-posts rocked from side to side. Then trees, lamp-posts, and roadway were engulphed in a yawning pit, from which there at once shot up a gigantic sheet of flame caused by the gas which was pouring out from the broken pipes. The immense excavation was thus converted into a kind of giant punch-bowl.

To the general astonishment it was found that only two persons had been injured, neither of them fatally. Of the 50 or 60 workmen at work in the tunnels branching off from that which had fallen in not one was hurt. A slight settlement had been noticed in the tunnel earlier in the evening, and the engineers had, fortunately, given orders for the work in it to be suspended. M. Berlier, the well-known engineer, ascribes the catastrophe to the fact that the general level of Paris is only eight metres above the water level, while the depth of the railway tunnels varies from ten to twenty-six metres. In consequence the weight of the pressure of the water alone on the tunnel is enormous, a fact of which, in the opinion of M. Berlier, sufficient account has not been taken in the choice of the system of excavation adopted.

THE CHINESE MINISTER'S TOUR.

A VISIT TO COVENTRY.

SIR CHIHCHEN LOFENGLUH, the Chinese Minister, arrived at Coventry on Dec. 11, upon the first official visit of his industrial tour, taken with a view to extending trade relations between England and China. The distinguished visitor was accompanied by his two sons, his secretary, three attaches, and Lord Saffield Barry Gingold, the Hon. Percy Allsopp, Mr. Dixon, and Mr. Laurence Cowen. The party were received at the railway station by the Mayor, Councillor W. R. Goate, and the Corporation, in full civic state. An illuminated address in book form was presented to the Minister, expressing hearty welcome and promising every assistance towards the attainment of the object of the visit. His Excellency, in replying, said he anticipated receiving from his visit to the city a great deal of information with respect to automobiles, cycles, ribbons, and watches. The party were then taken on motor cars through the principal streets, and spent the afternoon in visiting the Daimler Motor Works. In the evening the Chinese Minister was entertained to dinner by the Mayor.

The Chinese Minister, Sir Chihchen Lofengluh, had uncomfortable weather for his second day's stay in Conventry, the snow having fallen heavily. With his sons and his suite, however, he was out in good time on Tuesday, and made a visit to the watch manufactory of Messrs. Rotherhams. He examined the intricate processes very closely, particularly the product of each machine. The party then went to the Stevengraph Works for the purpose of inspecting silk weaving. Here his Excellency surprised the staff by his technical knowledge of the work and his acquaintance with the principles and action of the Jacquard loom. The attaches took copious notes in Chinese upon matters brought before them. His Excellency this afternoon proceeded to visit the cycle works of the Coventry Machinists' Company, and this evening is to witness a musical drill competition of the Sunday School Union teams.

BEAUTY AND HYGIENE.

For health, beauty, and luxury, use the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, which, Lady Constance Howard writes, is "pleasant to use, and whitens and softens the Skin." Also Testimonials from Countess Cathurst, Countess Clanwilliam, Viscountess Exmouth, Lady Dorothy Nevill, and many others. Delicately perfumed. Warning. When buying the Albion Milk and Sulphur Soap, see that name and figure-head of "Albion" are on the wrapper. Sold by all Chemists, Grocers, &c.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

THE BOER PRISONERS.

A VISIT TO H.M.S. PENELOPE.

"Now for a breath of British atmosphere," said I my vis-a-vis in the railway carriage. The vis-a-vis was Colonel Stowe, the Consul-General for the United States of America and we were both bound for Simon's Bay, the breeziest corner in the Cape peninsula, and the Portsmouth of South Africa. It was a sweltering day in Cape Town, and we were glad to get away from the reflected glare of the city—away through the green and smiling woods of Wynberg, across the picturesque flats to the white sands of Muizenberg and the cool winds of the Indian Ocean. The railway then runs along the seashore, past quaint old homesteads and many gabled villas, which cover the lower slopes of the mountains, rising from the very beach itself. By and-by we round a curve, and suddenly came into sight of a small fleet of cruisers lying like painted ships upon a painted ocean. It is a perfect morning, and the suspicion of a summer breeze just ripples the blue, mirror-like surface of the bay. Our immediate destination is the old Penelope, where the Boer prisoners are confined—the prisoners captured at the battle of Elands Laagte after the terrible charge of the Gordon Highlanders, the Manchesters, and the King's Royal Rifles. I must explain that the United States Consul-General is acting in the interests of the Boer prisoners on the suggestion of the authorities here.

H.M.S. PENELOPE.

We stroll through the beautiful grounds of Admiralty House down to the busy dockyards, and thence to the jetty, where we embark in a saucy little launch, and so across the limpid blue waters of the bay towards the Penelope. The Penelope is now a hulk, but, like most hulks she has a past. In her day she was a ship of credit and renown. Built at the end of the sixties, she served in the Mediterranean Squadron, and subsequently took a part in the bombardment of Alexandria, and bears marks of Egyptian shells to this day. Her fighting days have long been o'er, and she now lies anchored close into shore, minus engines and masts, and manned for life. She stands high out of the water, with monstrous big bulwarks of an old-fashioned pattern. At her stern are many paned windows of the kind popular from the days of Drake downwards. As we swing round the stern a swarm of boats is dispersing. The boats convey visitors, largely consisting of the fair sex, who have been temporarily prohibited from coming on board owing to abuse of letter privileges. Prisoners, as we learnt afterwards, are allowed to send and to receive letters, subject to the revision of the censor; but for some days past visitors had been crowding on board and advantage had been taken of the rush to smuggle through letters. Consequently the order was issued that visitors would only be allowed on board on Wednesdays, and must then get a permit from the Commander-in-Chief. As a matter of fact, the naval authorities are heartily sick of the prisoners, and will be glad when they see the last of them. The Penelope is used as an accommodation ship for naval supernumeraries, and the arrival of the Boer prisoner has upset the arrangements of the authorities at Simon's Bay.

THE PRISONERS' QUARTERS.

A few faces peer out at us as we climb the steps and are met at the gangway by Captain Bruce, the commander of the Monarch, temporarily in charge of the Penelope. The captain takes us below to his comfortable quarters in the stern of the vessel, and after a pleasant chat—for Captain Bruce, like most of his profession, is one of the best of good fellows—we pay a visit to the prisoners' quarters on the lower deck. The air is heavy with the savoury scents of a recently-fin

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WE have an Excellent Collection of key wind Silver Gilt WATCHES, the lever movements of which are really FIRST CLASS, and in the ordinary way, quality for quality should sell for Rs. 50 each; but as preference is now given to Stem-wind Watches, we offer these excellent time-keepers to those who do not consider a key-wind watch inconvenient at the bargain and Clearance Price of

Rs. 25.

Complete in case with spare glass, main spring and a guarantee for 2 years.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 1.

Owing to the New Year's Day holiday the Commercial Markets have been closed to-day.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s s Afghan, 1,439 tons, Captain J Tinlon, which arrived in harbour on Sunday from Mauritius, (18th December,) brought a cargo of sugar, and 28 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co's ss Bezwada, 3,279 tons, Captain J M Tyrrell, which arrived in harbour on Sunday last, from Calcutta, (20th December,) brought a cargo of coal, and 2 ponies.

THE B I S N Co's s s Naseri, 912 tons, Captain F J Raffin which arrived in harbour on (30th December,) from Busreh (18 h December,) brought a general cargo, 157 cases opium and 31 deck passengers.

ARRIVALS

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
1	Lawada s	Grier	Zanzibar, Dec 15.
	Secundersha schnr	Yacoda	Inhambane, Oct 29.
	Ujina s	Kilpatrick ..	Calcutta.

DEPARTURES.

Jan.	Vessel.	Commander	Destination.
1	Imperator s	Klausberger.	Trieste, &c.
	R I M S Investigator	Heming	Kundapur.

ADEN SHIPPING REPORT.

ARRIVALS.				DEPARTURES.	
Date.	Vessels.	Commander.	From	Date.	To
December					
3	Marathon H M s	Field	Bombay		
6	Minto R I M.	McArthur ..	Somali coast.	17	Hodeida
14	Wissmann ..	Mackenzie ..	Hodeida	18	Somal. coast
15	Falcon	Craig	Somali coast.		
16	St Ninian	Ramsay	Cardiff		
	Governolo It Gun Boat...	Bixio	Somali coast.		Hodeida
17	Woodcock ...	Laird	Sehar		Jeddah
	King Arthur	Barron	Bombay		Zanzibar
	Herzog	Issendorff ...	Hamburg ...		Sydney
18	Romo	Cowie	London.....	19	Busreh
19	Mosthari	Owen	Jeddah		Port Said F O
	Robt Irvine...	Hulbeck ...	Chittagong ..		
	Baron Fairlie	Alsnom	Barry.....		
20	Clan Mackenzie	Cowie	Calcutta	20	London
	Missir	Nachat	Hodeida	21	Red Sea Ports
	Duke of Westminster.....	Prentice	London.....		Brisbane
	Caledonia.....	Gordon	Bombay	2	London
	Adriatico	Barachini....	Mussowa	21	Mussowa
21	Yaroslavl....	Smelzky	Vladivostok...		Odessa
	Manora.....	Henderson ..	Calcutta		London
	J Brand	Tnorence	Novorissisk..		Jaffe F O
22	Arabistan....	Wall	London.....	22	Persian Gulf
	Piemonte It M of War..	Giuliani.....	Colombo		
	Falcon	Craig	Somali coast.		
23	Wissmann ..	Mackenzie ..	Hodeida		
	Sunrise (Yacht)	Coope	Cowes		
	Ula	England	London.....	23	Calcutta
	Annam	LeCospellier.	Bombay	24	Marseilles
24	Sachan	Mentz	Bremen.....		China

Aden, December 24.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. E. FERRERS NICHOLSON, COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 2nd January, 1900.

1. The Battalion will parade on Saturday afternoon, the 6th instant, for a Field Day. Time and place to be notified hereafter.

2. There will be a meeting of the Council of the Bombay Volunteer (Light Horse and Rifles) Rifle Association at Head-Quarters at 6 p.m., on Thursday the 4th instant.

By Order,
P. H. ROGERS, Capt.,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR W. G. WILSON, COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 2nd January, 1900.

1. There will be 10-inch R M L Gun drill in the Town Hall Compound and at the Nesbit Road Headquarters on Thursday at 8-15 p.m.

2. There will be Class Firing at Coorla To-morrow, Wednesday. Train leaves the Victoria Terminus at 6 a.m., (local time) and Byculla 12 minutes later.

By Order,
A. J. PEILE, Captain, R. A.,
Adjutant, B. V. A.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAM.]

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, DEC. 30.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed:—
Surats:—
Good Bhownugger:—
The Manchester Market has been:—

2 3-4 per cent. Consols	99 5-16
2½ per cent. Rentes	99
3 per cent. Sterling Loan	109 1 2
3½ per cent. Rupee Papers	03 7-8
3½ per cent. Rupee Papers	27 3 16
Bar Silver	

Holidays until Tuesday.

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

PORT SAID, DEC. 30.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Goorkha, left here, this afternoon.

PLYMOUTH, DEC. 30.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Matiana, arrived here this morning.

LIVERPOOL, DEC. 30.

The Anchor Line steamer Hispania left here for Bombay, this evening.

BANK OF BENGAL.

"THE following is the statement of the affairs of the Bank of Bengal for the week ending 22nd December, as compared with the statement of 19th December, 1899:—

LIABILITIES.	December 19, Rs.	A	P	December 22, Rs.	A	P
Capital paid-up	2,00,00,000	0	0	2,00,00,000	0	0
Reserve Fund	3,00,00,000	0	0	3,00,00,000	0	0
Public Deposits, &c.	1,23,18,705	5	10	1,24,13,719	10	10
Other Deposits, &c.	5,74,49,2 8	11	11	5,36,41,072	11	11
Bank Post Bills, &c.	1,0 107	12	8	2,17 217	0	10
Sundries	29,14,964	5	1	29,59,369	11	4
	10,28,02,170	3	6	9,88,41,369	5	11

ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Government Securities	37,98,380	0	0	40,21,866	0	0
Other authorised Investmts.	84,91,4 3	0	0	81,20,533	0	0
Loans on Govt. and other authorised Securities	2,04,84,791	13	5	2,25,46,861	2	5
Accounts of Credit do.	2,23,86,111	9	7	2,32,14,297	12	7
Bills discounted, &c.	1,40,71,951	6	4	1,30,07,625	7	11
Balances with other Banks.	10,82,867	10	11	8,81,0 1	3	8
Bullion	4,843	10	7	4,843	10	7
Dead Stock	13,31,985	15	8	13,32,01	8	10
Stamps	2,922	9	3	8,389	15	11
Sundries	16,65,893	13	0	16,42,514	15	4
Cash, &c., at Head Office	1,20,71,014	3	8	85,80,674	13	6
Do. at Branches	1,08,11,277	7	1	1,51,79,769	11	3
Rs.	10,28,02,170	3	6	9,88,41,369	5	11

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Government Balance at Head Office	5,31,553	Inc.
Do. at Branches	3,88,599	D.o.
Other Deposits	42,05,226	Dec.
Post Bills	87,110	Inc.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	1,52,483	Inc
Loans	2,02,070	Inc.
Accounts of Credit	2,38,156	Inc.
Mercantile Bills	10,61,729	Dec.
Cash at Head Office	34,90,314	Dec.
Do at Branches	14,61,03	Dec.

GODHRA-RUTLAM-NAGDA RAILWAY.

Approximate return of traffic for week ended 13th December 1899, on 141·14 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated.)	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	3,200	18,600	50	21,850
Or per mile of Railway	23	132	...	155
For previous 23 weeks of half-year.	78,275	3,39,045	3,301	420,641
Total for 24 weeks	81,475	3,57,665	3,351	442,491
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,445	19 826	32	23,303
Per mile of Ry. do.	24	141	..	165
Total to corresponding date do.	85,385	3,83,017	3,617	4,71,019

Decrease for the week ..... Rs. 1,453
Ditto to date ..... ,, 28,528

LATEST WAR TELEGRAMS.

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DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTHS.

MAXWELL—December 21, at Sudell House, Quetta, the wife of Veterinary-Captain H M Maxwell, A V D, of a daughter.

MACLACHLAN—December 25, at Mian Mir, the wife of Lieutenant T R Maclachlan, 40th Pathans, of a son.

ROBINSON—December 23, at Lahore, the wife of S M Robinson, Government Advocate, Punjab, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

BAKER-CAMERON—December 27, at Epiphany Church, Lucknow, by the Rev A I Birkett, C M S, Rev Richard Baker, C M S, Benares, to Mary Helen, daughter of Surgn-Lieut-Colonel C Cameron, I M S, (Retired).

DEATHS.

ALGER—December 22, at Naini Tal, Ellen Maria, the beloved wife of Charles Alger, aged 48 years.

FREESE—December 26, at Kas Ganj, R M R, Cecilia, wife of Charles Freese, aged 63 years.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*** ALL communications intended for publication in our columns should be addressed to the Editor and not to any individual member of the staff.

The Bombay Gazette

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1900.

THE Government of India have addressed the Governments of Bombay, the Punjab, the Central Provinces, the Chief Commissioner at Ajmere and the Resident at Hyderabad on the alarming proportions which the pressure of famine threatens to take, and the consequent drain on the resources of Government. Mr. Justice Ranade was the first to draw attention to the disquieting fact that within six weeks of its publication the official estimate of the numbers that would probably come upon the relief works in all the affected areas, has been largely exceeded in the Bombay Presidency alone. The statement made a deep impression on the large meeting held in the Town Hall, under the presidency of Lord Sandhurst, in November last, to raise funds to supplement the Government outlay. Mr. Ranade pointed out that this startling augmentation had taken place several months before the full effect of the famine and drought would become evident in the hot weather, beginning in March. Mr. T. W. Holderness, Secretary to the Government of India, deals with the same perplexing problem from the point of view of the Government. He tells us that the gravity of the situation, already created by the failure of the autumn rains, and the fear that the failure of the winter rains may greatly enlarge the area affected by drought, and the certainty that during the next six months great demands will be made on the public revenues for famine relief, had caused the Government of India to view the weekly return of relief operations with considerable anxiety. The numbers obtaining relief in British territory and in the Native States, already exceeds two and a quarter millions and are rapidly increasing. This is the state of things, although in most provinces relief operations are in the preliminary stage. The inevitable conclusion is that, if the present rate of progression is long maintained, the crowds on relief will far exceed the record of any previous famine, and will strain, not only the finances, but also the administrative resources of the Government. This is unquestionably true. The greatest famine of which we have had any experience in comparatively recent times in India, that of the later seventies, was confined to the Madras Presidency and some four districts in Bombay. The rest of India escaped practically scatheless. Owing to the almost total want of railway communication in the Southern Presidency it was impossible to carry relief to the famishing multitudes in the remote interior, and some five millions of people perished. In the affected areas in the Bombay Presidency the mortality fell short of half a million. The relief measures cost the Government of India fourteen millions. We can, therefore, understand the anxiety of the Supreme Government when they are confronted with something more than the possibility of a famine exceeding in area and intensity any previous visitation. It is natural that under the circumstances, Lord Curzon and his colleagues should ask the Local Governments to seriously inquire whether the principles or practice of Famine Relief have been imperceptibly relaxed, and whether the unwonted readiness of the people to throw themselves on State charity and avail themselves of every form of relief should not be met by corresponding strictness on the part of those administering it. It is admitted that the present drought is in some respects unprecedented.

Since the Administration of famine according to the Code—and, therefore, subsequent to the deplorable experience of 1876-77-78 in Madras and parts of the Bombay Presidency—there has been no instance of a province being twice afflicted by extreme drought within three years. There is not within living memory any instance of such widespread mortality among cattle as has occurred in these recent months, carrying with it, as the Despatch truly states, "ruin to classes superior to those from which relief workers are ordinarily drawn, and there has rarely been a drought which unmistakeably declared itself so early in the year, or necessitated so early a resort to relief." These exceptional circumstances make the Viceroy in Council reluctant to come to the conclusion that the enormous numbers on relief works imply that relief is being too freely given, and that the prescribed tests and precautions have not been fully observed. The caution is natural and necessary as is the conclusion that the circumstances demand close examination and suggest serious thought. We can well remember the unwillingness with which political economists in the official class, twenty years ago, acknowledged that the obligation rested on the Government to provide famine relief for large populations. They maintained with sincere conviction that such an obligation was never recognised by any Native Government in India, and that its acceptance would inevitably spell bankruptcy. The reluctance of Lord Lytton's Government in the early months of 1877 to recognise that famine was present in Madras, was largely due to the cogency of these arguments. But the pressure of facts and of public opinion in England which was seriously perturbed by a telegram from a public meeting in Madras, presided over by the Duke of Buckingham, describing the actual state of things in that Province, relegated political economy to Saturn and Neptune long before Mr. Gladstone dreamed of exiling it to those planets. Lord Lytton came down from Simla and in the fearful heat of a hot weather in a year of drought visited all the famine camps and sanctioned the organisation of relief on a vast scale. The strain on the "administrative resources of the Government" was so great that Bengal officers, civil and military, not understanding a word of Tamil, Telugu or Canarese, were sent to minister to the needs of a population wholly foreign to them. The Government of India in their Circular to the Local Administrations accepts the responsibility of fighting the famine with all the resources available. But it urges the necessity of restricting relief to those who are really destitute. The Government, while acknowledging this obligation re-affirmed the underlying principle that the State does not undertake to secure people from all suffering, but only to protect them from starvation. It could be wished that this had been put somewhat differently. If it were laid down that the State does not undertake to improve the condition of labourers coming on the relief works, and enhance their daily earnings, it would have met with general acceptance. Instances have been brought to our notice in which employers have found it impossible to obtain cooly labour less than a hundred miles from Bombay, at four annas a day, the usual rate being three annas. On inquiry the explanation was found to be that a man on the relief works gets himself a daily wage, supplemented by another for his wife, and one for each of his children. As in ordinary times the head of the family has to provide for wife and children out of his own earnings, his lot is sensibly ameliorated when wife and children obtain subsistence allowance, and he is relieved of the burden of supporting them. The Circular condemns any such administration of gratuitous relief in the homes of the people as would impair the traditional family obligations and the social system of the country. This is being done to quite an exceptional extent in the Central Provinces. But there the circumstances were unusual, the population being sparse and difficult to concentrate on large works.

Two principles are laid down which the Local Governments are recommended to insist upon. First, that the terms on which the work is offered should be such as will adequately test the need of the applicants. Second, that the wage shall not exceed the amount needful for the subsistence of the worker. The Famine Commission of 1878, doubtless influenced by the desirability of combating the arguments of the political economists, maintained that the system of famine relief they recommended would not exceed the financial resources of the Government. In their view, the proportion of the total population in a famine area, likely to be in receipt of relief in the worst months, would not exceed 15 per cent., and for the whole period, seven or eight per cent. The Report of the Famine Commission of 1896-97 proved that this percentage was not on the whole exceeded. But in certain tracts it was exceeded. To prevent the recurrence of such excess, the Commission recommended that the conditions and restrictions prescribed by the Code should be carefully observed. That agreed with the recommendation of the Commission of 1878, that the wage earnable on the works should be only sufficient for subsistence. But it recommended a subsistence scale considerably higher than that of the previous Commission. Many Local Governments called attention to the fact that the new scale could prove dangerously high for general adoption. Under that system, every member of the family, from the child in arms upwards, irrespective of the task, received a daily wage. Sir Antony Macdonell, Lieutenant Governor of the North-West, in October last, submitted a statement to the Supreme Government, pointing out the objections to the scale, and he has been authorised to adopt a considerably lower scale, the other Local Governments being authorised to try this scale experimentally. In the Central Provinces, the Chief Commissioner has inquired of his officers as to the effect of the scale in attracting persons who are not in actual need of relief. He proposes to vary the scale where this appears to have happened. The last Famine Commission reported that in most provinces it was found necessary to substitute payment by results for subsistence wages, but they consider that in the acute famine stage, the regular Code system is the only one that can safely be adopted. Lord Curzon and his Council desire that it should be understood that the Supreme Government share the anxiety of the Local Governments, that relief should be made accessible from the outset, but the relief system, however excellent, may have defects which, if not remedied, will undermine the whole. There certainly seems to be room for careful inquiry.

THE news received from General French on December 20th to the effect that the Boer position was capable of being flanked provided his horses were in condition. Apparently the Boers have also foreseen this danger, and realised that movement being accomplished they would have no option but to attack the British in position to clear their communications. In order that their retreat may be unimpeded they have evacuated their position at Rensburg and retired on Colesburg, which is getting near the Free State Border. The enemy have throughout discreetly evacuated their strongholds when their communications were threatened, and possibly the knowledge that a mounted force was operating against helped them to come to a decision. It is evident that the Boer force at Colesburg have the same dread of close conflict with mounted troops as their brethren at Modder River, and this fact helps to confirm the idea that the greater the number of mounted troops employed against them a greater success will attend the British arms. General Gatacre is again on the move, as on Saturday a force went to Dordrecht, a town some miles to the east of Sterkstroom, and a distance from the railway, and took up a position. The Lancers reconnoitred to the north, discovering the enemy who are in the possession of powerful guns. No fighting beyond an exchange of shots took place, and the British only lost one man wounded. The Boers, 2,000 strong, are advancing on our position, and an engagement is impending. In Natal the reports concerning Ladysmith disclose nothing to intensify the gravity of the situation, and there is nothing further concerning the meaning of the heavy firing heard in that direction last week. The Boers, however, it is said, are now making better artillery practice. Parties of Boers were reported to be on the south side of the Tugela River, and on Saturday owing to a sudden rise in the river several hundreds of the enemy were cut off from their main army. The report does not state they were captured but their captivity may be presumed. Some severe criticism is passed by Mr. Bennet Burleigh, the war correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," upon the seige train which arrived at South Africa last week. He affirms that among the guns are a number of obsolete seven-pounders, and that some of the pieces are not fit to decorate street corners. This is a serious reflection against the War Office, and it will be passing strange, if at a time when guns are most needed they are proved to be inferior to the weapons used by the enemy. As we go to press news comes that General French followed up his advantage, and before the retreating Boers had time to entrench their new position they were shelled by the Horse Artillery. This movement is stated to have been unexpected and demoralised the enemy who did not reply to the fire.

A CONSULAR report for the year 1898-99 on Persia deals with the trade and commerce of Khorassan. The year under review has been a period of prosperity for trade in almost all its branches, and the value both of imports and exports show a material increase on the results of the preceding year. The importation of British and Indian sheeting has risen from £2,032 in 1897-98 to £6,765 in 1898-99, or an increase of £4,728. The sheeting imported was for the most part of superior quality and of British manufacture. Being of softer texture, it is largely taking the place of country cloth for the making of the clothes. There is a slight decrease under the head of bleached long cloth, partly due to overstocking during 1897-98, and partly to the increased favour which unbleached long cloth is finding. The increased importation of the unbleached article, which is said to take dyes extremely well, and it being much used for clothing, more than counterbalances the decrease under the heading of bleached long cloth. In these articles and in sheeting Russian competition is described as having made no headway. Although, as has been said, the Russian manufacturers are fast securing the bulk of piece-goods trade, British piece-goods have by no means been driven from the field, and were imported during 1898-99 to the value of £26,000. The value of Russian piece-goods imported during 1898-99 is given at £59,414, or more than treble the importation of the previous year. The quality of Russian piece-goods is steadily improving. The local taste in colour, pattern, and design is being closely studied by the Russian manufacturers, and these goods would become formidable rivals to the British piece-goods, even if conditions were less favourable to them.

THE changes which have taken place in agriculture in the British Isles during the century which is about to close are very startling when an examination is made of the prices which grain fetched in 1800 and the quotations which rule the market to-day. A very interesting comparison is made in the *Daily Graphic*, which assumes that during these long years the average yield to the acre was: thirty bushels for wheat, thirty-three bushels for barley, and forty bushels for oats. The value of an acre of wheat at the beginning of the nineteenth century was £17 5s., barley realising £12-7-6, and oats £10. Taking the decades in rotation prices have been gradually declining, with the exception of a few intervals when they remained steady or slightly increased. Between 1889-99 the average price for wheat was £4-17-6 per acre, barley £5-7-3 and oats £4-3-4. The drop in wheat is over £12 per acre, and in the case of barley and oats the drop, although not so great, is equally dispiriting. The figures, however, afford a real history of corn-growing in the United Kingdom, and are quite sufficient to explain why corn-growing has been deposed from its premier position in our agriculture and its place taken by pasture.

H. M. S. RACOON, which recently left the Bombay Dockyard after undergoing repairs, has been ordered to proceed to South Africa.

THE R. I. M. Steamer Investigator, Captain T. H. Heming sailed to-day for Kundapur.

OWING to sickness among the horses there will be no artillery practice camp at Barkacha. Officers detailed to attend for instruction and umpires and signalling officers at the combined camp will not now be required.

MR. BRIGHT, Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, proceeds on two months' sick leave. Mr. Duke, Magistrate of Howrah, will probably officiate.

SMALL-POX is spreading at Peshawur, and several European cases are reported.

THE Punjab Polo Tournament, final round, has resulted in a win for the Patiala 1st team, who beat the Queen's Own Corps of Guides by six goals and four subsidiaries to one goal.

THE "Madras Mail" learns that arrangements have been completed for the delivery of the production of the Kolar Gold Mines to the mints in India. The deliveries will commence early this month. The second half of the December production of the larger mines and the whole of the December production of the smaller ones will be sent for a start.

THE 1st Bengal Lancers and the 5th and 7th Bengal Cavalry have each been called upon to provide 30 horses, one duffdar, one farrier, and eight syces for Mounted Infantry Service in South Africa. They will leave Calcutta in the hired transport Uganda.

THE goods traffic on the B. B. and C. I. Railway for the week ending 9th December, 1899, shows an increase on the corresponding week of 1898 of 157,773 maunds, and Rs. 36,971 in the earnings.

THE Special Court at Wankaner has passed its decision in two of the remaining cases in which the late Nyayadhish Mr. Dwarkadas Nandlal stood charged with the offences of corruption, &c. Sentences of one month's rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 800 have been awarded in each of them.

THE re-organisation of the Queen's private band is a musical event of some importance. Her Majesty has recently heard several fine musicians, as well as the Queen's Hall Orchestra, and she is said to have grown discontented with the repertoire and playing of her own band—a hired organisation composed of some thirty professionals. The resignation of Sai Walter Parratt (the "Outlook" says) afforded a pretext for a reconsideration of the personnel of their limited musical body, in which we may be sure Princess Beatrice has taken a keen personal interest. The new conductor will almost certainly be Dr. Villiers Stanford. He is a typical Irishman, with a fund of quiet humour and great musical technique. "Shamus O'Brien"—his Irish opera—was one of the two modern works which have enticed Lord Salisbury to a theatre, the other being an Offenbachian revival.

AN extraordinary outrage is reported from Masterton, an important inland town about 60 miles from Wellington. Burglars entered the residence of James Coradine, chloroformed all the inmates, five in number, and robbed the house of all the money they could find. A linen rag, saturated with chloroform, had been stealthily placed on or near each sleeper. Mrs. Coradine awoke almost immediately after the chloroform had been applied, and saw the forms of two men, but she at once relapsed into unconsciousness.

THE annual camp of exercise of the Surma [illegible] Light Horse, held at Silchar this year, has as it been a great success. Sir George Luck was present. Various manœuvres were executed by the Corps under Colonel Mac Laughlin. It was afterwards inspected by Colonel Schulch, A. Q. M. G. General Luck praised the Corps for its efficiency, but gave it as his opinion that Mounted Infantry were better suited than Cavalry for Assam.

AT the Guildhall on Monday, Dec. 11 Sir Edward Poynter, P.R.A., was presented with the Freedom and Livery of the Turners' Company, in recognition of his great services to English art. Sir Edward, in reply, said he was sure that the Company could do a great deal for English art not only in London, but also in the provinces.

THE Cairo correspondent of the "Daily News" announces that four gunboats, with a number of barges and 2,000 men, have left Omdurman to commence work on the Sudd, on the White Nile. The decision of the Government to undertake this gigantic operation has given universal satisfaction. Sir W. Garstin does not anticipate that next summer's supply can benefit by the work about to be carried out, but the advantages that must accrue in future cannot be over-estimated should this great engineering scheme reach a successful issue.

THE trial was concluded at Edinburgh on Dec. 8 of David Turnbull Colquhoun, a member of the firm of J. and D. T. Colquhoun, writers, of Glasgow, who was charged with embezzling trust funds to the extent of 10,000l. The alleged embezzlement was in connection with the firm's business. The evidence was continued of Dr. James Colquhoun, who has been sentenced to five years' penal servitude for embezzling 50,000l. He was examined chiefly upon his own glambing transactions, and the pr[illegible] made to him by the accused in regard to them. The accused met him at Monte Carlo in January last, and "they got into a rage with one another." Replying to the Solicitor-General's questions about his visits to Monte Carlo, the witness retorted, "I have only been once to Monte Carlo since I met you there." He further said, "I did not gamble at Monte Carlo. I played—Just as I saw Mr. Asher play, and other members of the Bar." These statements are described as causing a "sensation" in court. In summing up the Lord Justice Clerk said it would have been a pity if the accused had not been put upon his trial. In such cases as these, where there had been a vast destruction of the interests of others, it would be a sad thing that it should be left merely to the public idea whether a particular person had been guilty in the matter or not. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, but recorded their strong opinion of the gross carelessness and neglet the accused had shown as partner of his firm. He was thus dismissed. The verdict was received with applause in court.

IN the House of Representatives, Mr. Williams, Mississipi, introduced a joint resolution, which is the result of a consultation between the Democratic leaders in the House and is understood to be expressive of their general position, declaring that it is the intention and purpose of the United States to recognise the independence of the Philippines and withdraw their forces from the islands provided the independent Government agrees to refund the 20,000,000 dols. paid by the United States for them and to give the United States a suitable naval coaling station, and grant them in perpetuity free access to all Philippines ports. The resolution also pledges the United States to give the Philippines their friendly assistance in guaranteeing them against foreign interference or aggression for [illegible] years, during which time the foreign affairs of the islands will be under the control of the United States.

THE Lord Mayor is fully justified in his notification issued to the Press in accordance with the decision which was riched at the Mansion House Conference on Friday to distribute funds not distinctly ear-marked for special purposes in accordance with his own discretion. Experience has shown that a slight mistake was made in the terms of the original notification, and it would be the height of folly not to take notice of the lesson. Already £257,364 has been specifically laid aside for the widows' and orphans' fund, and in accordance with Mr. Wyndham's calculation the actual sum likely to be needed for this purpose is £234,000. The total, therefore, has already been exceeded at the Mansion House alone. Under these circumstances it would obviously be absurd to go on piling up all unmarked contributions to the benefit of this fund to the exclusion of others which require immediate assistance. Under this head, in addition to Princess Christian's appeal mentioned by the Lord Mayor, we may also draw attention to the claims of the Red Cross organisation. News from the seat of war shows what sterling work that body is doing, and is deserves the consideration that can be given it in the distribution of the war funds.

IN the conclusion of the debate on foreign policy in the Chamber on Dec. 13, Signor de Martino, brother of the ex-Minister in Pekin, criticised the management of the Italo Chinese negotiations, and expressed doubt as to the value of the Triple Alliance for Italy if it were powerless to prevent such prizes like that of the Anglo-French agreement in regard to the Hinterland of Tripoli. Signor Nasi, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs in the first Pelloux Cabinet, defended the foreign policy of Admiral Canevaro, and added that those who asked why Italy had damaged Italian interests in the Tripoli Hinterland should know that there exists a Note of an Italian Minister stating that Italy had a stake in the North African Question. This declaration, the *Times* correspondent says, produced considerable sensation. Signor Nasi did not mention the date nor the name of the signatory of the Note, which is believed to have emanated from one of the Cabinets presided over by the Marquis Rudini. The Marquis Visconti Venosta, in reply, did not join issue with Signor Nasi on the existence of the Note, but stated that Italian policy in regard to North Africa consists in the maintenance of the *status quo* especially in respect of commercial routes. Concerning Chira, the Foreign Minister declared that the Italian representative had been instructed to support certain private applications for commercial concessions, but no territorial acquisition was or could be contemplated. A naval division of normal strength would, however, be maintained in Far Eastern waters.

THE "Bulletin du Musee Commercial," of Belgium, publishes the substance of a letter received there from Port au-Prince, Hayti, stating that business in the island is paralysed owing to the prevalence of severe financial crisis. French exporters are warned to observe the greatest caution in their relations with Haytian houses. Trade, indeed, in the island has been in a very bad state for more than a year. The British Consul General at Port-au-Prince in his report published two months ago stated that in 1898 the trade of the island was worse than it had been before, ascribing this unfortunate condition mainly to the persistent fall in the price of coffee in the European and American markets. This commodity, the main exportable product of Hayti, cannot be shipped except at prices involving a heavy loss to the planters. Unfortunately there is an export duty equivalent to 17s. 11d. per cwt. which it is impossible to reduce or remove, because it constitutes the security for the internal debts of the Haytian Government. The possibility of substituting other security with the consent of the creditors does not appear to have been considered, although it would seem to be to the interest of the bondholders themselves that a duty which prevents Haytian coffee from competing with that of Brazil and other countries should be abolished. This remedy appears the more urgent because the cultivation of coffee in the island is tending to diminish.

SPECIAL TELEGRAMS.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

OPERATIONS IN CAPE COLONY.

BOERS RETIRE ON COLESBURG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 1, 1-25 A.M.

An official despatch from Cape Town, dated Sunday, states that the Boers have vacated their entrenchments at Rensburg, the next station beyond Arundel, the head-quarters of the Cavalry Division under General French. The enemy feared that their communications would be cut, and they have retreated to Colesburg.

The British force at Sterkstroom marched out and took up a position within three miles of the enemy, and the Lancers went out and reconnoitred north of Dordrecht on Saturday. They came in contact with the enemy, who possessed a superior artillery force, and the British retired on Dordrecht, one man being wounded.

IMPENDING ENGAGEMENT AT DORDRECHT.

SUCCESS OF THE CAVALRY BRIGADE.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, JAN. 1, 3-30, P.M.

A telegram from Capetown states that a force of 2,000 Boers are advancing against the position taken up by the British at Dordrecht, and that the pickets have been driven in.

General French has followed up his advantage gained by threatening the communications of the Boer force at Rensburg by sending a strong force of Cavalry and Horse Artillery to follow up the enemy. The force started on Saturday night, and at day-break on Sunday the Artillery shelled the enemy's positions outside Colesburg. The Boers did not return the fire, the unexpected movement having demoralised the enemy.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

ENROLMENT OF CITY VOLUNTEERS.

LONDON, JAN. 1.

The first five hundred of the City Imperial Volunteers were enrolled at Guildhall to-day with great ceremony and enthusiasm.

GALLANT DEFENCE BY LANCERS.

A "Times'" telegram from Sterkstroom, dated yesterday, states that forty of Montmorency's scouts were cut off yesterday owing to their refusal to leave a wounded officer.

They defended themselves splendidly against the repeated attacks of 800 Boers, and were eventually rescued by a party under Captain Goldsworthy to-day.

The Boers retreated losing thirty men.

THE BOERS WITHDRAWING TO COLESBURG.

LONDON, DEC. 31.

According to General French's official report the Boers have left their entrenched position at Rensburg and have withdrawn to Colesburg.

A SKIRMISH.

Captain de Montmorency with the Lancers had a skirmish with a superior force of the enemy and withdrew in good order to Dordrecht where we are in a position of defence.

BERLIN NEWSPAPERS NETTLED.

The Berlin newspapers are somewhat nettled by the British capture of the German Steamer Bundesrath, at Delagoa Bay, but they realise that the question is purely a technical one.

DESPATCH OF GERMAN WARSHIPS TO SOUTH AFRICA.

The German warships Condor and Schwable are *en route* to Delagoa Bay.

GENERAL WHITE'S SORTIE UNCONFIRMED.

The report which has been published that General White had made a sortie and captured a hill has not been confirmed.

THE BURSTING OF A BOER SHELL. SEVERAL CASUALTIES.

Besides Lieut. Dalzel, who has been killed by the bursting of a Boer shell in a mess-room at Ladysmith the following officers have been wounded:—

Lieut. P. H. Price-Dent of the Devons.
Lieut. H. W. F. Twiss of the Devons.
Lieut. W. E. Scafe of the Devons.
Lieut. J. F. A. Kane of the Devons.
Lieut. Caffyn of the Devons.
Lieut. J. A. Byrne of the Inniskillings.
Lieut. A. M. Tringham of the Queens.

ACCURACY OF THE BOER ARTILLERY.

The enemy's artillery around Ladysmith have improved in accuracy.

LADYSMITH'S GARRISON FEELING THE PINCH.

The British garrison at Ladysmith is now feeling the pinch of the siege, but remains confident.

THE "TIMES" ON THE WAR.

The *Times*, in a leading article, says that the war in South Africa has convinced the nation that far-reaching military reforms are very urgently needed.

A RECONNAISSANCE FROM CHIEVELY.

LONDON, JAN. 1.

A reconnaissance was made on the 30th ultimo, from Chievely which proved that the Boers still hold Hlangwane Hill in strength.

The reconnoitring party retired under a heavy fire but had no casualties.

THE POSITION AT MODDER RIVER.

The Boers continue desultory shelling at the Modder River but their shells seldom burst. The guns of the Naval Brigade are replying effectively.

GERMAN OFFICERS' CONFESSION.

ARMS FOR THE BOERS.

SLATIN PASHA.

WISHING SUCCESS TO THE BOERS.

CALCUTTA, JAN. 1

An "Indian Daily News" cablegram, dated London, December 31, states:—The German Officers arrested on the steamer Bundesrath state that arms are being landed at Delagoa Bay for the Boers; also that a French liner, lately brought in there two large guns from Madagascar, consigned to the same destination. Dr. Leyds denies this and says that the imputation is only a pretext for occupying Delagoa Bay.

It is reported that Slatin Pasha who was Lord Kitchener's right-hand man in the Soudan, goes to South Africa.

The "Times'" Cape correspondent states that after the Magersfontein battle the Boers tended the British wounded on the field.

The New York and Boston City Councils have adopted resolutions wishing success to the Boers.

THE NEW YEAR'S HONOURS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

LONDON, DEC. 31, 8-30 P.M.

The Honours' "Gazette" was issued to-day. Sir Stafford Northcote, the newly-appointed Governor of Bombay and Sir John Lubbock are created Peers. Lord Cromer has been made Privy Councillor; Mr. Macpherson, Advocate General of Bengal; The Hon'ble Mr. Aiyengar, of Madras; and Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna, of the Bombay Municipal Corporation, are created Knights.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

LONDON, DEC. 31.

The following names appear in the New Year's list of honours:—

To be Knight Commander of St. Michael and St. George:—Mr. H. J. Jourdain, late of the Mauritius Legislature.

To be Companion of the Bath:—Colonel Macdonald, for services in Uganda.

The following have been raised to the Peerage:—Sir Stafford Northcote and Sir John Lubbock.

The following have been made Privy Councillors:—Lord Cromer, Lord Rowton and Mr. William Beach, Member for Andover.

To be Knights Bachelors:—Mr. Walter Thorburn, Member for Selkirk; Mr. Justice William Macpherson, of the Bengal High Court of Judicature; Advocate Wyengar (query Aiyengar), of the Madras High Court; Mr. Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatavadekar, Member of the Bombay Legislative Council.

To be Knights of the Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George:—Sir West Ridgeway and Sir John Bramston.

To be Companions of St. Michael and St. George:—Lt.-Col. T. P. B. Ternan, D. S. O.; A. D. Mackinnon; C. H. Crawford; J. Ainsworth; and Captain Tomkins, for their services in Uganda.

To be Knights Commander of the Bath:—Captain Wm. de Wineleslie Abney.

To be Companions of the Bath:—Mr. J. L. Gorst, Financial Adviser to the Khedive; Mr. Chalmers, Secretary to the Currency Committee.

THE "OPEN DOOR" IN CHINA.

LONDON, DEC. 31.

It is stated at Washington that the result of Mr. Hay's negotiation to secure the open doors in China is most gratifying. Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia, and Japan have responded favourably.

TRAIN WRECKERS AT VICTORIA WEST.

LONDON, DEC. 31.

Two attempts were made to cut the railway at Victoria West by a party of mounted Boers, who exchanged shots with the British pickets on the night of the 26th. One wrecker was detected and shot.

INDIAN PRINCES AND THE WAR.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, JAN. 1.

It is stated that 300 Artillery horses have been accepted by the Government of India from the Maharaja of Scindia for South Africa. The Mysore Durbar, the Kashmir Durbar, the Begum of Bhopal, and the Maharajah of Holkar also have approached the Government of India with offers of help for South Africa.

PARADE AT CALCUTTA.

The New Year's parade to-day was an impressive ceremony, the Viceroy and leading officials and all the troops in garrison attending. The crowd was a record one.

DEATH OF SIR CHARLES PAUL.

Sir Charles Paul, Advocate General, Bengal, died here suddenly last night.

LORD SANDHURST'S RETURN.

CALCUTTA, JAN. 1.

Lord Sandhusrt and party left for the Bombay Presidency last night, the departure being private.

THE NATU BROTHERS.

POONA, JAN. 1.

A public meeting under the auspices of the Sarvajanic Sabha was held last evening in Joshi Hall. Mr. S. G. Jinsiwala presided, when the following resolutions were passed:—Mr. Gangadhar Ravji Khare proposed that this meeting recognises with great pleasure that Sirdar Balasaheb and Tatyasaheb Natu have been released by Lord Sandhurst. The second resolution was proposed by Mr. Ganesh Dhekne to the effect that a congratulatory letter be forwarded by the president to Sir William Wedderburn and the British Standing Congress Committee for their perseverance in respect of the release of the Natu Brothers.

Mr. Balasaheb Natu thanked the Bombay Government, the Government of India, and her Majesty the Queen-Empress for their release, and also all the officers from Mr. Kennedy, the Police Commissioner, to Mr. Carmichael, Collector of Belgaum, for the kind treatment. He further stated that the expenses of the brothers amounted to Rs. 15,000, and that Government had been pleased to remove the attachment on their immoveable property.

THE PROCLAMATION PARADE.

POONA, JAN. 1.

The troops in the garrisons of Poona and Kirkee paraded early this morning on the general parade-ground to fire a feu-de-joie in celebration of the anniversary of the proclamation of the assumption of the title of Empress of India. The troops were formed in two Brigades, the first Brigade, under Colonel Bell, comprised of the Royal Scots, the 3rd Bombay Light Infantry, and the 28th Bombay Pioneers; and the 2nd Brigade, under Colonel Collette, were made up of the Shropshire Light Infantry, and the 14th and the 16th Bombay Infantry. A second line was also composed of the 1st Bombay Lancers, the 4th Bombay Cavalry, and the Bombay Sappers and Miners, under the command of Colonel Thomas. The whole of the troops were under the command of Major General Burnett, who came up on the ground with the Army Head-quarters and personal staff. The General inspected the line and afterwards the troops fired a feu-de-joie. Three hearty cheers were given for her Majesty the Queen-Empress. At the close of the parade the Regiments returned to their former position and Major-General Burnett, commanding the Poona District, then decorated several non-commissioned officers and men with medals. Among those, thus rewarded, were Sergeant-Major O'Gorman, Chief Instructor, Central Gymnasium, and Sergeant Bowers, Royal Scots, both received the long service and good conduct medals; Colour Havildar Sivajirao Chauhan and Sepoy Mahadu Erandikar, 16th Bombay Infantry, received the Tirah and the Punjab Frontier medals; and Sepoy Ratna Mengs, 16th Bombay Infantry, the long service and good conduct medal. In addition to the foregoing there were also five men of the 28th Pioneers, who received medals. The troops then marched back to their quarters. The attendance was very large. The artillery being at Hinjouri for practice, therefore no royal salutes were fired. The troops numbered nearly 5,000.

A SERIOUS CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

POONA, JAN. 1.

A serious carriage accident occurred yesterday near the polo-ground to the family of Mr. George, late of the Government Central Press, and at present Superintendent of the new press at Yerrowda. The party went to see the Reay Paper Mill at Mundwar. In the carriage were Mrs. George, Mrs. Heapy, Miss George, Master George, and the nephew of Mrs. George. The horse attached to the carriage was a very restless one. After going a short distance the horse took fright and bolted; the carriage rolled over with a crash, throwing the occupants heavily on the ground. The carriage was smashed to pieces. Mrs. George and her nephew were badly injured and taken to hospital. Mrs. George returned home but her nephew was seriously ill, his face and body being badly cut up and bruised. Miss George had the flesh of her right hand badly scraped, Mrs. Heapy injured her leg, and Master George luckily escaped.

PRAYERS FOR BRITISH SUCCESS AT THE TRANSVAAL.

(FROM CORRESPONDENTS.)

SURAT, JAN. 1.

Sardar Davar Edalji Modi having appointed the New Year's Day for offering up prayers to the Almighty to grant speedy victory to the arms of her Gracious Majesty the Empress in the Transvaal War, a large assemblage of the leading and respectable members of the Parsi community met together in the principal fire temple of Shet Dadabhai Modi at Surat, the venerable head of the community, who is now nearly eighty-five years old, and the hereditary loyalty of the whole family to the British Government is well known, rose up and delivered in impressive tones a most loyal and appreciative speech recounting the priceless benefits of the British Rule to the Parsees. The Jasan prayers were enthusiastically gone through by the numerous priesthood under the lead of the suburban high priest, in the absence through illness of the city high priest Rustamji. Mr. Davar also unveiled a fine portrait of the well-known Parsi gentleman, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, lately M. P., which a Bombay Parsi has presented to the Fire Temple praising his high personal qualities and zeal in the cause of the public good. At the call of Mr. Davar the whole assembly rose and gave three hearty cheers for the long continued health and welfare of her Majesty and her imperial family. The interesting proceedings terminated with a distribution of largess to the priests and the poor. The whole expenses were borne by the funds of the temple in the hands of the managing trustee, Mr. Pestonjee Wadia, and co-trustees of the Wadia family.

UNVEILING OF MR. DADABHOY NOWROJI'S PORTRAIT.

NAVSARI, JAN. 1.

The ceremony of opening a handsome portrait of Mr. Dadabhoy Naorojee in the Atashbehram was performed by Dastur Darabji, before a large Parsee gathering. After the impressive Jashan ceremony, Dastur Darabji in a felicitous speech recounted the eminent services—social and political—to the whole country, which cherishes Mr. Dadabhoy's name with love and gratitude. He specially recorded with pride that Mr. Dadabhoy was a native of Navsari and hoped and wished him long life and health to continue to serve the country. Ervad Edulji Autie, in a forcible speech, eulogised the high character, honesty and distinguished patriotism of Mr. Dadabhoy, expressing gratification, that the Navsari Mobed had achieved the proud distinction of being the first Indian Parliamentary member, and concluding with earnest prayers from Avesta, for the long life and health of Mr. Dadabhoy.

THE CAVALRY HORSES FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

LAHORE, DEC. 30.

The trained horses to be supplied by the Maharaja of Kashmir for service in South Africa will be drawn from the Kashmir Imperial Service Lancers, the State Bodyguard Cavalry, and the State Horse Artillery Battery. The details to be drafted from the Indian Cavalry in the Punjab for service in South Africa will comprise thirty horses, one duffadar, one farrier, one sowar, and eight syces from each of the following regiments:—9th Bengal Lancers at Multan, 13th Bengal Lancers, at Rawalpindi, 11th Bengal Lancers, at Jhelum, 15th Bengal Lancers at Ferozpore, 2nd Bengal Cavalry, at Jullundur, 16th Bengal Lancers, at Umballa, and 17th Bengal Cavalry, at Mian Mir. Lieutenant Colonel Dawson, 9th Bengal Lancers, proceeds in charge, with Major Biddulph, 19th Bengal Lancers as Second-in-Command. Only stable gear will be taken with the horses. No dates for departure are yet fixed.—*Pioneer.*

THE PROCLAMATION PARADE.

YESTERDAY being the Anniversary of the Proclamation of her Majesty the Queen, as "Empress of India," the troops in garrison paraded on the general parade-ground, Esplanade, and fired an Imperial salute and feu-de-joie. A very large concourse of spectators gathered round the maidan, four or five deep, to witness this annual manœuvre. The troops that took part in the parade were the Royal Navy (in action) under Captain Greet, R. N.; the Royal Garrison Artillery, under Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. Johnson; the 1st Norfolk Regiment, under Lieutenant-Colonel J. L. Govan; the 21st Bombay Native Infantry, under Major W. F. Cahusac; and the 2nd Bombay Grenadiers, under Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Mackenzie. The whole parade was under the command of Brigadier-General Ventris, Commanding the Bombay District, there being also present Major C. P. Triscott, Assistant Adjutant General, and Captain A. Aitkin, Deputy Asistant Adjutant General. About 7 o'clock the Royal Navy entered the ground with six pieces of artillery and took up a position on the right, followed by the rest of the regiments, which were drawn up in two lines on the left, the bands being in the rear of the second line. On the Royal Standard being unfurled, the Royal Navy fired the Imperial salute of thirty-one guns, the Infantry firing the "feu-de-joie" at intervals, and the bands playing the National Anthem. Brigadier-General Ventris then called for three cheers for the Queen-Empress, which were heartily responded to by the troops. The regiments then formed up in quarter-columns and marched-past the Royal Standard under their respective officers. The parade then dispersed, and the troops proceeded to their quarters.

A salute of thirty-one guns was also fired from the harbour. All the Government vessels and merchants' ships in the harbour were decorated.

MILITARY NOTES.

MAJOR BADDELEY, R.E., has been permitted to elect for continuous service in India.

On vacating his appointment of A.-D.-C. to the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, Lieutenant F. B. Tillard, R. E., is posted to the Military Works in the Punjab Command.

Lieutenant McHarg, R.E., is transferred from the Military Works to the Survey Department.

FOREIGN TELEGRAPHIC SERVICE.

Latest dates of Foreign Messages received at Bombay from the United Kingdom during the 24 hours ending at 8 p.m., of the 1st January, 1900.

(Difference in Longitude allowed for.)

Via.	Latest Dates.			Time occupied in transmission.	
	D.	H.	M.	Hours.	Minutes
Turkey	...	...	Nil	0	...
Teheran	1	2	35 p.m.	0	33
Suez	1	2	50 p.m.	0	12

Time occupied in the transmission of messages to Bombay during the 24 hours ending 8 p.m., of the 1st January, 1900.

	Maximum Time.		Minimum Time.	
	H.	M.	H.	M.
From Calcutta	...	31	...	4
,, Karachi	...	14	...	1
,, Madras	1	13	0	6

THE NEW YEAR'S HONOURS.

BOMBAY RECIPIENTS.

THE recipients of higher honours in the New Year's Honours' List belonging to this Presidency are only three, Dr. Bhalchundra Krishna, who has been created a Knight of the British Empire, and Mr. E. L. Cappel, acting Commissioner, Southern Division, and Khan Bahadur Sirdar Mahomed Yakub walad Shaik Ismail, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of Thar and Parker, who have been appointed Companions of the Indian Empire. Among the native distinctions, we notice that Mr. Ambalal Sakarlal Desai, Chief Justice of Baroda, has the title of Dewan Bahadur conferred upon him. Among the minor native distinctions, Mr. Harisehandra Krishna Joshi has been made a Rao Bahadur, and Messrs. Harjivandas Sunderdas, Mohanjee Pranjivandas and Anandrao Narayan Dalvi have been made Rao Sahebs, while Mr. Mirza Mahomed Shirazee, Mr. Ruffikhan Mustafi, and Mr. Dadabhoy Sorabshah Munsiff, Superintendent of the Karachi Jail, have been made Khan Sahebs—most of them for services rendered in suppression of the plague.

SIR BHALCHANDRA KRISHNA, KT.

Dr. Bhalchandra has the rare good luck of being the second Hindu gentleman in this Presidency who has ever been created a Knight of the British Empire, the first recipient of the title having been the late Sir Mungaldas Nathubhoy in the time of Sir Richard Temple, Governor of Bombay. For the last twelve years he has taken a leading and active part in public affairs in Bombay; while all his zealous services in the Standing Committee and the Municipal Corporation have been of a disinterested and meritorious character; and yet during all these years, he has enjoyed as large a private medical practice in the native community as any of his compeers. A man of a tranquil and philosophic temperament, kind and courteous to all, self-denying and devoted to the public welfare, the new Knight may be said to be one of the most popular men in Bombay. His father Krishna Shastri studied Sanskrit literature, medicine and law in the famous Sanskrit College at Vishram Baug, in Poona; and coming to Bombay in the early fifties, settled here as a private Shastri and medical practitioner, under the patronage of the late Rev. Dr. John Wilson and Dr. Bhau Daji. He was long the Pandit of the Deccan Vernacular Translation Society, in which capacity he translated several works from English into Marathi. Later on he entered Government service as a Shastri in the Elphinstone High School. After a long service in other cities, he took up the post of Tutor and Khangi Karbhari to the Chief of Akalkot, and from that post retired in 1874. Dr. Bhalchandra was the third of four sons, and was born in February 1852, at Palaspe, near Panwel. His early years were spent partly at Palaspe, and partly in Bombay and Talegaum. His education was entirely acquired in Bombay. He obtained his vernacular knowledge under the well-known Mahadeva Pantoji, who was the teacher and inspirer of many a Bombay worthy like the late Mr. Justice Telang. His home education was looked after by his father and he owes not a little to the tender but strict discipline of his mother. His English education he owed chiefly to the Elphinstone High School, where he acquired those habits of industry and steady work which have been the chief source of his success in after life. He matriculated in 1868 from the Elphinstone School, where he was a pupil of the Hon'ble Mr. Kirkham. After passing his Matriculation Examination he joined the Grant Medical College. There his success was rapid from the outset. At almost every examination at College or the University he was the unquestioned first. At the final examination of L. M. in 1875 he stood at the top in the first class, something like the double first of Oxford. He won the Sir Jamsetji Jeejeebhoy Gold Medal and the Charles Morehead Prize. He was soon after appointed Assistant Surgeon at the J. J. Hospital and subsequently at Bandra, and was then promoted to a place of great responsibility at Palanpur. Here he had a new and fresh field for work. The claims of English medicine were to be asserted among a profoundly ignorant and backward people. He had to keep himself on good terms with the Political Agent on the one hand and the Durbar on the other, and to steer clear of rivival factions so common in Native States. He acted with such consummate tact and ability that he pleased all parties, and though somewhat of an alien, he soon formed there some lifelong friendships. His work earned encomiums from the highest quarters. Lord Salisbury, then Secretary of State for India, writing with reference to the Palanpur report, observed: "I have perused with much satisfaction the account of the working of the Palanpur Charitable Dispensary. I observe that a feeling of confidence in the superiority of our medical practice over the unskilled pharmacy of the native doctors is taking hold of the public mind, that many afflicted persons who have in vain sought relief through the medical men of their own race have resorted to the dispensary and had their ailments successfully treated, and that various delicate operations requiring unremitting care and patient skill on the part of the Surgeon in charge have been favourably performed. Whether regarded from a humanitarian or political point of view these results are gratifying, and reflect great credit on the abillity and care of Bhalchandra Krishna, the Medical Officer of the Institution."

The climate of Palanpur did not agree with Dr. Bhalchandra, and some domestic bereavements induced him to seek for a change. Dr. (now Sir W. G.) Hunter, his old Principal, offered him a teachership in the Vernacular Class at the College, but the Surgeon-General, Dr. Thom, would not spare so successful a worker from Palanpur. At last after repeated entreaty he was transferred to Bassein in 1876. Here too, within a short time he gained considerable popularity, but he was soon called away to a sphere of greater and wider usefulness in Baroda. His first appointment in Baroda was Principal of the Vernacular College of Science, a new institution, started by the administration of Raja Sir T. Madhavrao, which worked against great odds of ignorance and prejudice, but eventually attained such conspicuous success that it earned the praises of Mr. Melvill, the Agent of the Governor-General, and Raja Sir T. Madhavrao, the Diwan of Baroda. His medical skill soon attracted the notice of the authorities, and he was given some professional duties in addition to principalship of the college. He was overloaded with work. At one time he had as many as nine offices put upon him, an amount of work which when he was relieved of it gave employment to four graduates. Here again the extreme pressure of work once more induced him to make an effort to revort to the British service, and he had an offer of the post of teacher of chemistry and botany in the Poona Medical School. But her Highness Maharani Jamnabai Saheb prevailed upon Mr. Melvill and Sir Madhavrao to retain him at Baroda. On this occasion he was relieved of a part of his duties, and granted a substantial increase of salary. Nevertheless, such was the personal confidence he had inspired among the princes, sardars and people, in regard to his medical skill, that he continued down to the end of his service in Baroda to be the most hard-working of men. He was at all hours equally accessible and attentive to the rich and the poor. He worked incessantly, regardless of personal comfort and of the hope of gain. He was held in such high estimation both by Sir Madhavrao and Mr. P. S. Melvill that when the late Dr. Cody retired from the Baroda service they at once selected him to fill the post of Chief Medical Officer and Durbar Physician. This brought him into contact with the districts. He made rapid tours, visited every nook and corner of the territories, established new dispensaries and hospitals, and brought medical relief to the door of all the poor in the State. His motto was thoroughness in whatever he undertook. His fame spread to all parts of Gujarat, Kathiawar, and the neighbouring Panchmahals, so that he is still the consulting physician of many a Chief in those provinces.

In 1885 Dr. Bhalchandra left Baroda, and settled in Bombay as a private practitioner. Here his success was almost phenomenal. Though a comparative stranger at that time, his fame had preceded him, and from the first he made his mark. He has an uncommonly strong sense of duty which impels him to work and attend to the call of the sick and the needy even at the sacrifice of personal health and comfort. In the performance of his public duties, he is ever assiduous, upright, and high-minded. Such qualities could not fail to attract the notice of the Government, and within two years of his arrival here he was made a Justice of the Peace, a Fellow of the University, and at the Municipal election in 1889 he was elected a member of the Municipal Corporation for the Girgaum Ward, which he continues to represent to this day. He threw himself into the work of the Corporation with characteristic vigour. Though one of the busiest of professional men in Bombay, he has been one of the most regular attendants at the meetings. Full of pluck and enthusiasm, and ever animated by a high sense of public duty, he soon distinguished himself as one of the leading champions on the side of what is some times termed "the opposition." He is, however never so immoderate or reckless as to be classed among the irreconcilables. In 1892 he became a member of the Standing Committee, and during the years 1895 and 1896 was elected its Chairman. At the University, too, he displayed like activity and earnestness, and in all its debates he has taken a leading part. He became a member of the Syndicate in 1893 and held the office for three years. In his profession he is justly looked upon as one of the leaders among the Native community. In all his busy life he has found time to write books, to read papers, and deliver lectures before different literary, social and professional associations. He is a member of the Council of the Presidency Association. Recently during the plague epidemic his organization and management of the Hindu Fever Hospital elicited the praises of all who visited the institution. His elevation to the Legislative Council in August, 1897, was a natural sequence of his uniformly successful career, and was a just recognition of his fitness to represent the native community in the Council. Dr. Bhalchandra was president of the Municipal Corporation, and read the address presented by the Corporation to H. E Lord Curzon on his first landing on the shores of Bombay as Viceroy and Governor General

MR. E. L. CAPPEL, C.I.E.

Mr. Edward Louis Cappel, acting Commissioner Southern Division who has been made a C.I.E., joined the service in October 1878 and served as third-class Assistant Commissioner successively at Lahore, Murree, Rawalpindi, Jhelum, and P. D. Khan till 1882. In May of that year his services were placed at the disposal of the Government of Bombay, and in the following month he was posted as Assistant Collector at Sholapur, where he served till May, 1889, having meanwhile officiated there as Collector and Magistrate, District Registrar, and Political Agent. In May 1889, he was transferred to Poona as Assistant Collector and Forest Settlement Officer. In September 1890, Mr. Cappel officiated as Collector Magistrate, and Registrar at Kolaba, Alibag, and continued to perform the duties of the office for a few months. From June 1891 to April 1893, he performed the responsible duties of Director of Land Records and Agriculture, and Survey Commissioner at Poona. Mr. Cappel served for a short time at Belgaum and also at Broach, and on his return from furlough in June 1895, was transferred to Thana, where he officiated as Collector and Magistrate, District Registrar, and Political Agent of Jawhar. He subsequently performed the duties of Collector and Magistrate at Dharwar and at Belgaum; and in November 1895, was appointed to officiate as Commissioner of the Southern Division.

SIRDAR MAHOMED YAKUB WALAD SHAIK ISMAIL, C. I. E.

Sirdar Khan Bahadur Mahomed Yakub Ismail, who has also been made a Companion of the Indian Empire, joined the Service in June 1876, as Munshi in the City Magistrate's office at Karachi. Having performed the duties of mukhtyarkar and daftardar to the Collector at Karachi and other places in Sind, he was in November 1888 appointed to officiate as Deputy Collector and Magistrate successively at Hyderabad, Larkhana, and Mehar. Having been confirmed in the post of a Deputy Collector and Magistrate in May 1889, the Sirdar performed the duties of that office at Sehwan, Thar and Parkar, the Nara Valley Division and Shikarpur. In December 1893, he was deputed on special duty to Lahore to give evidence before the Royal Opium Commission; and from February to May, 1897, was again placed on special duty in connection with the plague in Sind. In the first two months of 1898, Sirdar Mahomed Yakub was deputed on special duty to settle boundary disputes of Mukans in the Kohistan Mals of the Karachi District. From March to June of that year he was placed on plague duty at Karachi; and from July to October 1898, was appointed to officiate as Deputy Commissioner of Thar and Parkar. The manner in which the Sirdar performed the various duties assigned to him seemed to afford satisfaction to his immediate superiors. From October 1898 till April 1899, Sirdar Mahomed was deputed on plague duty in Bombay under the Municipal Commissioner, and appeared to have discharged his duties in a creditable manner among his own co-religionists, who with the exception of the Khojas, have never taken kindly to inoculation. He was granted three months' privilege leave from April 1899.

DINNER AT BARODA.

SPEECH BY THE GAEKWAR.

BARODA, DECEMBER 30.

AT the Christmas Dinner, given by his Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda to Colonel Ravenshawe and all the European guests of the Residency in the Durbar Hall, the Maharajah, in proposing the health of the Queen-Empress, said:—

Col. Ravenshawe, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—I am extremely glad to welcome you all to-night. The return of an annual occasion like this must always be of a pleasant character, but, to-day, there are certain elements of regret to which I cannot help alluding. One is the absence of old friends, whose faces one is accustomed to look for on this occasion. The other is the thought of what Christmas this year must mean to many a hearth and home in England, which feel empty, because their sons are absent, amid war and danger in a distant country, and some never to return. This day of rejoicing must be to them a day of sorrow and anxiety. But they have the consolation, that those who have fallen in their youth, have fallen with glory in the discharge of their duty, and that those who are absent are fighting for their country and sovereign. For myself, I may be allowed to repeat in this hall that my troops and means are at the disposal of the Government, in connection with the present crisis. Ladies and gentlemen, I wish you each and all the compliments of the season. May the return of the occasion find us reunited in all health and prosperity. I have now the pleasure of proposing to you the health of her Majesty the Queen-Empress.

BOMBAY THIRD EXTRA MEETING.

SATURDAY, 6TH JANUARY 1900.

1st Entries closed on Monday, 1st January, at 7 p.m.

The New Year Plate—Distance 5 furlongs

1 Mr S A W's b aus g Truffle, 6 years
2 Mr Frankland's b aus m Poissard
3 Mr R J Hunter's br aus g Antwerp, aged
4 Mr Townsend's b aus g Spark
5 Mr R G Baldock's b aus g Welshman by Neckersgar—Fairy Voice, aged, by wire
6 Mr R G Baldock's br aus g Iybu-by Enfilade—Marehosa, aged, by wire
7 Messrs Mathuradass Goculdas and Anandji Nanji's br aus m Clarice
8 Mr J Hormusjee's br aus g Dakin

The Dealers' Plate—Distance 1-2 Mile.

1 Mr S A W's b a h Azzeze, aged
2 Mr Ali bin Amer's b a h Nugget
3 Mr Hossein bin Kader's g a h Bagdad, 13 3 3-4, 6 years
4 Messrs G K & D D's g a h Parth, 13 3 1-2
5 Mr Jackson's b a h Lucky Boy, 13 3 1-2, 4 years
6 Mr A R Obayed's b a h Vanitas, 6 years

The Cumballa Plate—Distance 7 furlongs

1 Mr. S A W's ch a h Sunjer, aged
2 Mr Ali bin Amer's g a h Bonaparte, 13 2 3-4
3 Mr A. W Khashram's g a h Pilot, 5 years
4 Mr Rienzes c a h Regal, 5 years
5 Messrs Mathuradas Goculdas and Anandji Nanji's ch a h Alert, 5 years

The Parel Plate—Distance 6 furlongs

1 Mr S A W's ch a h Jehanger, 13 3 1-4
2 Mr A M Bushares c a h Patna, 13 3 2-4, 5 years
3 Mr Hamood Aboo Shabas b a h Muttag, 13 1, 5 years
4 Mr Rienzis b a h Behram, 14 0

The New Comer's Plate—Distance, 1-2 mile

1 Mr Nusserwanjee g a h Superb 13 2 1-4, 6 years
2 Mr Alimahomed bin Abdool's ch a h Glencoe, 13 2, 6 years
3 Mr A R Amer's b a h Leader 13 3
4 Mr Rienzis b a h Recovery late Repentance, 13 2 1-2
5 Mr Jackson's b a h Marvellous, 13 2 1-2 6, years
6 Mr Mahomed Hajee Ebrahim's b a h Duldul, 13 2 1-2, aged
7 Mr Abdool Az'z Dahaishs ch a h Methab, 13 2 1-2, 5 years
8 Mr A M Shamalan's c a h Chancellor, 13 2 3-4, 4 years
9 Mr Baldrey's g a h Bandsman, 13 2 3-4, 6 years
10 Mr Sheh Tookmachies c a h Commander, 13 3

The Amateur Purse—Distance 5 furlongs

1 Mr Mollis'n's ch ch g Sandy, 13 2 1-2 4 years
2 Major Croly's g a h Dijia, 13 2 1-2 by wire
3 Mr Courage's ch a h Snnippet, 13 1 1-2
4 Mr Fischer's ch a h Busrah, aged

Second Entries close on Tuesday, 2nd January, at 7 p.m.

CECIL GREY,
Secretary, W. T. C.

Bombay, 1st Jan, 1900.

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

THE TRADE OF ENGLAND.

AMERICAN COTTON.

LONDON, DEC. 16.

THE Trade Returns for the past month are again very satisfactory, substantial increases being shown in both imports and exports. The imports are valued at £44,244,811, an increase of £2,175,997—equal to 5·1 per cent.; and the exports of British and Irish produce at £24,571,940, and increase of £4,751,733—equal to 23·9 per cent. This increase includes the value of new ships sold to foreign owners amounting to £1,837,821. Deducting this amount the increase is £2,920,912. Exports of foreign and colonial merchandise are valued at £5,169,512, an increase of £638,678. As regards the Imports there are only three classes of goods which are lower in value. These are living animals, articles of food and drink liable to duty, and raw materials for textile uses. Of the others, raw materials for other than textile uses, metals, manufactured articles, and food and drink articles not liable to duty show the largest increases in value. Cattle and sheep are both less in numbers and value, and in each case the cause is the decline in the receipts from the Argentine Republic. In articles of food and drink liable to duty wine shows a heavy fall in quantity and value, this being due to smaller quantites of French and Portuguse wine being landed; raw cocoa, currants, and brandy are also less, but tea, raisins, rum, and coffee are more in quantity and value. The fall in value of raw materials for textile purposes is almost all due to the smaller receipts of raw cotton the decrease being 1,097,435cwt. in quantity and £1,328,126 in value, and this heavy fall is found in the receipts from the United States, while the arrivals from Egypt show a substantial increase.

The higher prices ruling have prevented the value falling as much relatively as the quantity. Flax, hemp, and jute are reduced in quantity, but are higher in value Silk and mohair are more, and also sheep's wool, which further shows a large rise in price. In other raw materials the imports of wood and timber are very heavy, and further substantial increases are found in tallow, hides, guttapercha, manures, paper-making materials, bristles, paraffin, and resin; but caoutchouc is less in quantity and value. As regards metals, unwrought copper, pig and puddled iron, and silver ore are each less in quantity and value. Iron ore was landed to the amount of 511,000 tons, compared with 357,000 tons; Spain, as usual, sent by far the largest quantity. Both lead and zinc are less in quantity, but are more in value owing to the higher prices ruling. In manufactured articles leather shows an increase of 32,000cwt. and £220,000 in value; linen yarn, boots and shoes and gloves, paper, cotton manufactures, jute manufactures, woollen yarns and manufactures are all more in value; but iron manufactures, watches, and silk manufactures are less. As regards articles of food and drink, barley, oats, and beans are less quantity and value; all other cereals (except wheat flour, which, though more in quantity, is less in value) are more in both quantity and value, especially Indian corn. More was landed of fresh beef, preserved meats, butter, margarine, potatoes, and refined sugar; but less of bacon, hams, pork, mutton, eggs, raw fruits, rice, raw sugger, molasses, and glucose. Again there is a large increase in the receipts of tobacco, the quantity of unmanufactured tobacco imported so far this year being 112,000,000lb., compared with 71,000,000lb. during the corresponding period last year. Of the oils only in palm is there a falling off; but petroleum is more in quantity and value and other considerable increases are found in cocoanut, olive, train, and turpentine.

As regards the Exports of British and Irish produce only in living animals and apparel are decreased values observed. In the case of the other classes very large increased values occur in metals and yarns and textile fabrics, while substantial increases are shown as regards raw materials, machinery, and articles of sundry industries. Articles of food and drink are more in value, owing to a large increase in the shipments of herrings; but beer and ale, spirits, suggar, and hops are less. Coal is more in quantity by 1·6 per cent. but in value the increase is 16·2 per cent. As to sheeps' wool the demand from the United States is still very marked while Germany, Holland, and Canada took more also. Cotton yarn is less in quantity, but is a little more in value, prices having advanced, as is also the case with piece goods. Of piece goods the British East Indies took less, but it is satisfactory to see that the shipments of yarn and piece goods to China are much in advance of those of last year. It is also encouraging that the exports of cotton piece goods, jute piece goods, and linen yarn and piece goods to the United States have been greater. Woollens and worsteds do not show this feature, but yet the demands from other quarters have been so

November last year. "Ridley's Wine and Spirit Trade Circular" points out, however, that a decrease in any one month cannot be taken as a proof that the business is of an unsatisfactory character, as the total for the first eleven months of the year shows a gain of 201,912 gallons. As regards French wines, a decrease of 88,634 gallons is shown for the month, which has transformed the increase shown for the expired portion of the year at the end of October into a decrease of 57,807 gallons for the eleven months now closed. This decrease seems to have been spread over both white and red wines of French origin, but the bulk of the decline in November is attributed to a reduction in the clearances of claret and Burgundy. According to an analysis by the authority already referred to, however, French red wines shows a gain of 52,192 gallons for the year, so that the real decrease for 1899 has been in French white wines, champagne alone showing a decrease of 121,753 gallons for the eleven months. "This is sufficiently accounted for," we read in "Rideley's Circular," already referred to, "by the fact that practically none of the 1892's and but comparatively few of the 1893's come within this year's figures, which are chiefly made up of ordinary shipping qualities. We are quite convinced that the decline is a purely statistical one, and that a different, effect will appear from the returns a little later on when business becomes brisk with the 1895's. Of these wines a considerable number have not yet been seen, their shippers preferring to with hold the showing of samples till the spring. As regards their quality, it is generally agreed that they are quite worthy of being shipped as a vintage, whilst a few good judges regard them as really fine." The clearances of port show a decrease of 93,465 gallons for the month and 269,594 gallons for the eleven months, a rather striking decrease considering the assumed increased popularity of this description in recent years. On the other hand, the clearances of Spanish red wine have continued to increase, the gain for November being 23,411 gallons, and for the eleven months no less than 337,780 gallons. This is admittedly a very remarkable movement, and seems to promise well for Spanish trade. Even sherry, though showing a decrease of 10,800 gallons for November, still shows a total for the expired portion of the year 8,271 gallons ahead of last year's total at the end of November. Wines from the miscellaneous countries and colonies show a gain of 37,467 gallons for November and a total gain for the eleven months of 183,262 gallons, representing, it is understood, increased clearances of German and also Australian wines.

Messrs. Hubbard Brothers and Co. report as follows on the American cotton position in their circular dated New York, December 6:—"A curious phase of the present aspect of the situation is the relative position of current deliveries in the Liverpool market, which practically acts as a bar to the free export of cotton from America. English spinners seem willing to pay an exorbitant premium for cotton for prompt delivery, while it is possible for them to secure their raw material for delivery during next summer at a discount of nearly half a cent a pound from present quotations. This discount prevents exporters from competing with American spinners in the Southern markets, as they can only base their operations on delivery at the time the cotton arrives in Liverpool, and therefore, as the discount is large, they are unable to do any business. The stocks of cotton at the interior towns are the largest on record and are largely held in first and second hands, thus securing to the planters and merchants the largest portion of the profit arising from the advance in values since the beginning of August. That the South should have obtained the benefit of this improvement in values means much in the future development of that section of the country. Usually at this season of the year there is a large amount of cotton held in the South by merchants and exporters who have secured themselves against loss by sales in this or the Liverpool market. This is not the case this year, and we feel justified in pointing out the evident prosperity which must result from the profits on this cotton going largely to the planter. One reason assigned for the discount in Liverpool is, however, just this accumulation of cotton at the known interior towns, for the spinners argue if there is so much visible there must be more invisible and the crop, while not a large one, is with the surplus carried over, more than our requirements. Therefore, they continue, will wait and only buy from hand to mouth, believing that there is more cotton than reported, and we can buy it cheaper in the spring, when the new crop is being planted. That is, we believe, the attitude of the foreign spinner, who has been wrong all the season. It is also true that a few of them appear to be changing from this attitude and buying, in the shape of contracts, more cotton than they at present require, on the human desire to make back by going long what they have lost on the bear side. As we stated last week, the simple question for the American holder to decide is whether the crop is short enough to create later on a still stronger situation than that now existing, which will enable him to obtain even better prices than those now being paid by spinners for prompt delivery. Speculation at the moment seems waiting for his decision, though believing that he will hold on.

Funds were easily usable over the night at 4 1-2 to 5 per cent. per annum, and the rate for a week was 5 1-4 to 5 1-2, while the brokers discounted fine drafts with two and three months to run at 6, four months at 5 7-8 to 6, and six months at about 5 1-2. A moderate discount business was also done at the Bank of England at 6 per cent. In regard to the statements that have appeared as to shipments of gold from Canada to this country, we understand that a banking institution has withdrawn 800,000 dols. from the Dominion to New York, where sterling xchange has been bought for remittance to London to meet the approaching interest payments by the Canadian Government. At the Bank French coin to the value of £25,000 was bought, making the net efflux in the week just ended £718,000. Tenders for India Council remittances for 40,00,000 rupees were invited by the Bank of England, when the whole amount was allotted in bills, 37,19,000 rupees being on Calcutta, 26,10,000 rupees on Bombay, and 2,00,000 rupees on Madras. Tenders for bills at 1s. 4 1-16d. per rupee will receive about 13 per cent. of the amount applied for. The Bombay telegraphic transfer rate was steady at 1s. 4 1-16d. per rupee, but the Calcutta rate fell 1-32d., to 1s. 4 1-16d. per rupee. The Hong Kong bill rate rose 1-8d. to 2s. 0 1-16d. per dollar. The silver market was again firm on the Eastern demand, but the amount of business transacted was small, and the price was unchanged at 27 1-4d. per ounce. Bank rate 6 per cent; Lisbon gold premium, 42 per cent; Valparaiso commercial paper, 15 7-8d; New York exchange on London, 4·81 3-8; Argentine gold premium, 129·90 per cent.—previous quotation, 129·60.

Wednesday was a day of realisations in the Stock markets, and matters wore a very gloomy appearance. The non-success of Lord Methuen's column was looked upon in a very grave light, as further showing that our commandos cannot at present cope with the Boer forces until they are strongly reinforced, so that the war would therefore be protracted. South African mining shares consequently displayed great weakness, while West Australians were also flat, under the lead of Lake View Consols. All the other departments participated in the depression, and Home Rails marked further substantial losses, American Rails also being a feature of weakness, more particularly those stocks chiefly dealt in on this side—viz. Louisville, Southern Prefs., Southern Pacifics, and Union Pacifics. Consols dropped away, leaving off at 101 1-4 for money and 101 5-8 for the account. British Corporation stocks and Colonial Government securities were steady. The traffics of the principal Argentine lines were satisfactory. In Home Rails, the Great Northern and the Midland have decreases: the former has a fall of £1,614, comparing with a rise of £4,568 in the corresponding week of last year; the Midland's decrease is £2,289, mitigated by comparison with a heavy increase of £14,408 last year. There are two specially excellent increases to chronicle: the Great Western is up £12,020, comparing with an increase of £1,890 a year ago; even better is the North-Eastern's increase of £11,232, following, as it does, an increase of £11,212 last year.

THE New York correspondent of the *Standard* telegraphed on December 10:—To-day's telegrams bring the pronouncements of the London weekly Press regarding Mr. M'Kinley's statement respecting "entangling Alliance." Singularly enough, none mentions the qualifying phrase limiting the prohibition of such Alliances to matters with which the United States has no direct concern. Some commentators here think that this exception is just now more significant than the re-affirmation of a threadbare principle.

IMPERIAL TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.

A MEETING convened by the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce was held on Monday in the banqueting hall of the Exchange Station Hotel, Liverpool, to hear Sir Edward Sassoon, M.P., deliver an address on "Imperial Telegraphic Communication." Mr. Danson, president of the chamber, occupied the chair, and said that since 1894 the chamber had taken an active part in the agitation for a reduction of the cost of cables to India and other parts of the Empire, and they welcomed Sir Edward Sassoon, who was chairman of the Imperial Telegraph Committee of the House of Commons. The chamber maintained that the reduction of rates to India should be 1s. per word. Half-measures would not do at all. (Cheers.)

The Lord Mayor, having to leave for another meeting, moved a resolution recommending that support should be given to the action which the Imperial Telegraph Committee of the House of Commons proposes to take with the view of placing the important matter of electrical communication between the United Kingdom, India, and the British colonies and dependencies on a footing commensurate with the greatly altered conditions of Imperial and colonial relations. He suggested that in order to reduce Indian rates 50 or 75 per cent. the Indian Government should guarantee cable companies against loss. If such guarantee was necessary, he hoped it would be received. (Cheers.)

Sir E. A. Sassoon then read his paper. He said that on behalf of the House of Commons Imperial Telegraph Committee he thanked them for their presence, which might be regarded as a protest against one of the most gigantic impositions to which, perhaps, any civilized commodity had yed had to submit. Whenever a reform had to be initiated, whenever that movement assumed the proportions and perspective of a serious and a determined agitation, when the defects and irregularities of an obsolete and a mischievous system which such a movement sought to expose and a remedy had to be subjected to the ordeal of public scrutiny and criticism, it was to Lancashire that they turned.

EXCESSIVE CHARGES.

For a great many years past the burden of the excessive charges exacted for Imperial telegraphic communication had been felt by all the constituent portions of the Empire, and nowhere had it been more severely felt than in Lancashire, the instance of Mr. Henniker Heaton some 50 members assembled in Committee-room No. 15, and after several conferences it was decided to approach the Chancellor of the Exchequer. It was he who granted the subventions which had enabled the associated group of telegraph companies to acquire the powers which they had and which enabled them to impose their terms upon a long-suffering community. They laid before him, in broad outline, the grievances constituted by the onerous tariffs, and the numerous but unfortunately fruitless attempts that had been made from time to time, both by the Imperial and the Indian Governments, to get the companies to agree to make some concessions. The Chancellor of the Exchequer expressed himself as being in absolute agreement with them, and admitted "that, at any rate with regard to India, there was a very considerable grievance in the cost of telegraphic communication, and, whether the matter had better be approached in the first instance by Royal Commission or by a committee of the House of Commons, or whether it is possible by the action of the departments principally concerned, the Post Office and the Indian Government, or by some such process as Sir Edward Sassoon has suggested of filling up gaps between different systems, a good deal might be done to improve the position. These are all points which I will bring to the attention of my colleagues." He had an interview with the French Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, who assured him of his personal adhesion to the principle for which they were contending—viz., that the full inland rates of the two countries should not be exceeded. He gave the following instances of the charges he protested against. Recent many messages for India and even for Australia *via* India were despatched through the land lines abutting on the Persian Gulf, and a word to Fao, at the head of the gulf, cost 6 1-2 d, but from there to the Indian frontier the charge went at a bound to 3s. 6d. London to Gibraltar, the same instance as Fao to Karachi 3 1-2d.; to Vancouver, 6,000 miles, 1s. 6d.; to Accra (Gold Coast), same distance, 6s.; to Alexandria, same distance, 1s. 7d.; to Perth (W. Australia), 11,100 miles, 4s. 7d.; to Bombay, 6,300 miles, 4s.; to Borneo, 9,500 miles, 5s.; to Lagos 5,200 miles, 7s. 1d.; to Tunis, 1,400 miles, 2d.; to Bermuda, 2,900 miles, 2s. 6d. The working expenses were now so low, thanks to the Duplex and Morse systems, which economized time, that in Queensland they could telegraph 3,000 miles for a penny. Another instance—St. Petersburg to Vladivostok, 6,000 miles, 4 1-2d., whereas to Shanghai, a few hundred miles further, they paid 5s. The charge to Australia only a few years ago used to be 9s. per word, but after the reduction to 4s. and 4s. 9d. per word all the preliminary sacrifice of revenue was recouped in three years.

INDIA AND AFRICA.

His next considered the case of South Africa, where the dread of the competition brought about a wholesome change in the attitude of the companies. He then dealt at length with the case of India, enforcing his argument by the figures he had quoted. The telegraph companies, he said, held India paralysed in their grasp, so that, however willing the Indian Government might be to meet reasonable demands, it could not be done, as that Government was apparently the bond-slave of these all-powerful companies. Now what they desired to know was how came it that the Indian Government had for so long remained passive and quiescent spectators while those fetters and shackles were being imposed by the telegraph companies upon the industrial, commercial, and social classes of the community? They also wanted to know why it was that the land line connecting Constantinople with Cairo was so inaccessible to the public. They wanted to know the reason why the Turkish land lines along the Euphrates Valley were equally inaccessible to them. If they could not have free trade in telegraphic communication, if they must suffer from the effects of some necessary protection to the companies, let them not sit still and, with folded hands, submit to this pernicious and all absorbing system of bounty-fed lines and cables. They were very much in the dark as to the nature of the conventions entered into by the associated companies with the Turkish, Persian, Egyptian and Indian Governments; and the Foreign Office refused information on the ground that the permission of the companies would have to be previously obtained. This permission did not appear to be forthcoming. What was it they were afraid of divulging to the public? Why all this sinister and nebulous concealment, if everything was plain and above board? He asked them, as practical men of business, whether it was right or proper that on a matter affecting the welfare of their commerce, their shipping, and their industries, arrangements should be concluded and kept secret without their having a word to say, or being able to life a finger against any of the provisions which may be obnoxious or detrimental to their interests. (Hear, hear.) They were consequently driven to grope in the dark in their efforts to wrestle with powerful corporations thus bolstered up and protected. He next gave them an instance of the strong position to which these companies had attained, and their disregard of the public interest. Before the Folkestone Chamber of Commerce he had referred to the breakdown of the cable between Delazoa Bay and Mozambique—one of a system for which the proprietary company had received over £1,300,000 from the State in the shape of subsidies. This cable, although laid 20 years ago, had not been duplicated, and was interrupted from October 31 till November 15 last. A few days after its restoration came the news of another interruption of more than a week's duration between Aden and Zanzibar to another unduplicated cable laid 20 years ago. Both of these were lines upon which they had to depend for the rapid transmission of news from the seat of war, and when these were interrupted they were only able to get news by the long land line through Natal to Cape Town, and so home along the West coast of Africa cables. Were they not entitled to ask to what uses those public funds, so lavishly supplied, had been devoted? Was it understood that these subsidies were to be applied, however indirectly, towards buying out or expropriating accessible land lines in other parts of the world for the deliberate purpose of smothering and strangling competition, instead of being employed to keep the cables so freely subsidized in a state of efficiency by timely duplication, so that in the hour of need they might be of service to the nation? (Hear, hear.) The rates of the companies, though they were reasonable when the enterprise was in its infancy, were now, in view of the phenomenal increase of traffic, wholly antiquated and intolerable; and as to codifying, all she contrivances of codes and condensation had now reached their high mark of perfection, therefore no relief in that direction could be looked for. It had been argued by those who supported the monopolists, against whose methods they now raised their protest, that by the use of codes the public while only paying for one code word were actually getting the value of the ten or twelve words which such code word might actually mean, and that for this reason the public could not be overcharged. This was said to be clearly false reasoning as, although many commercial houses had been driven to the use of codes by the high rates maintained, the general public were not in such a fortunate position. In any case, the telegraph companies were paid for the words they actually transmitted, and that coding had had no evil effect, as far as their traffic was concerned, was shown by the large annual increase in the revenues of the companies in question. Another fact. With the awakening of the constituent elements of the Empire to the necessity of drawing closer together to the mother country, a demand had arisen for facilities for the transmission of messages of a social character; that demand was irrepressible, and it was also one which no Government could wish or afford to neglect. A good deal of the toleration shown by the public towards these companies was undoubtedly attributable to the belief:—(1) that they were in possession of "all British" cables; (2) that these cable were altogether beyond the reach of danger in time of war. He was afraid that the intelligent British public had lulled themselves into a false sense of security, for not only were these companies' cable not "all-British," they were not even mainly fixed on British landings, the bulk of them were switched on at Lisbon, Mederia, St. Vincent, Egypt, Java, and other foreign stations. Second, as regarded their vulnerability, he had pointed out in letters to "The Times" that several cables were easily cut by the American men-of-war, and in some cases, as in the case of Hongkong to the Philippines, cable communication was wholly interrupted, Admiral Dewey having had no difficulty in performing the operation. In the House of Lords, Lord Carnarvon stated in 1885 that "the Russian Government had a carefully elaborated scheme for taking measures against our submarine cables in Eastern waters." Sir John Ardagh, Director of the Military Intelligence Department, distinctly pointed out "that in the event of our losing Egypt, or anything happening in that country averse to our interests, the Mediterranean cables to Australia, India, and the East generally would be cut at once." This actually did occur during the bombardment of Alexandria. So much for these two pleas.

THE PROPOSED CHANGES.

The scheme which they proposed for immediate consideration, and for which they claimed their support, was not an ambitious one. A very simple way of overcoming the difficulties was pointed out in an excellent paper read before the Society of Arts by Mr. E. O. Walker, C.I.E., who was lately in the service of the Indian Government Telegraph Department, and this project it was which they recommended to their attention. The map showed that the Russian lines to Merv were continued until they reached the north-west frontier of Afghanistan at Kouschk (about 70 miles north of Herat); from Kouschk, via Herat and Kandahar and Afghanistan, Chaman in British India (in the vicinity of Quetta) was reached, a total distance of, say, 450 miles. A land line could be erected between Kouschk and Chaman, which latter formed part of the Indian telegraph system, for about £30,000. Now, the cost of a telegram from London to Kouschk was only 6d. per word if sent direct via Russia, and the cost of a telegram from any one part of India or Burma to any other part was 2d. per word; to this total of 3d. they had to add the amount due for transit through Afghanistan, say, at most 4d. and in this way they could hope to see the rate to India reduced to 1s. per word. This line would meet the conditions of the Meshed to Herat route, of the possibilities of which Lord Curzon, from his experience of the country, spoke favourably, as since the time of his visit the Meshed line, which formed protion of the Persian land line system, had been connected with Merv and thus with Kouschk. Authorities were also united as to the facility with which the Persian Gulf cables, which formed such an expensive link in the chain to India, could be reinforced by the establishment of a land line from Shiraz to Jask in Persia, which, if erected (and its erection was estimated to cost about £35,000), would complete the overhead line from London to Calcutta with the exception of the short cable across the Channel. It was in this way that they might hope to see the present high rates very much reduced. Having thus reached Burma at the rate of 1s. per word, let them turn their attention further East. Here they found that the Burmese lines reached down the Malay Peninsula as far as Mergin. A gap of 200 miles existed between this point and Penang, from whence a line runs south to Durion Saral, followed by a gap of 60 miles to Jelebu. From Jelebu the line to Malacca already existed, and a distance of 150 miles from Malacca to Singapore was still unbridged. Thus, by the erection of some 450 miles of land line Singapore could be reached for about 1s. 6d. per word, provided that the Afghanistan line also were established. It was to the accomplishment of the project sketched out above that he earnestly directed their attention and claimed their support. (Cheers.) All they asked for was fair play and bare justice. The fates were propitious, the auguries encouraging, and with their intelligent sympathy, aye, with their earnest, strenuous, and unfaltering support they should before long record a great and a beneficent triumph. (Cheers.)

Mr. Alfred L. Jones seconded the resolution which had been moved by the Lord Mayor, and the motion was adopted.

RUSSIA AND THE HOLY LAND.

THE Athens correspondent of the "Standard" writes: The Greek Patriarch at Constantinople is about to address an Encyclical to the Orthodox Autonomous Churches in Greece, Russia, Servia, Roumania, and Montenegro, protesting against the recent illegal election of a Patriarch at Antioch, in Asia Minor, who is believed to be a Russian agent.

The Jerusalem correspondent of the same journal says:—The question of the election of a Greek Orthodox Patriarch to the vacant Throne of Antioch, which has been the subject of much controversy for the past two years, and in which Russian diplomacy played a conspicuous part, has now terminated in a triumph for the latter, notwithstanding the protests repeatedly made to the Sublime Porte by the Patriarchs of Constantinople, Alexandria, and Jerusalem. The Sultan has finally sanctioned the appointment of Monsignor Meletios, Bishop of Lattaquie, Syria, and a native of Damascus or Graeco-Syrian, whose candidature Russia strongly supported. The three above named Patriarchs actively opposed his election, their contention being that it was contrary to established rules and precedents for a Graeco-Syrian to hold such a high office in the Church, Monsignor Meletios being the first native Prelate to occupy the Throne of Antioch at Damascus, his appointment is hailed with much satisfaction amongst the native population and clergy and is an event to which much significance is attached, more especially by France and Great Britain, who cannot look with indifference at the preponderance gained by Russia in this matter and the vantages which will accrue therefrom. It is a well-known fact that the Hellenic element in the East has been, and is still, doing its utmost to frustrate Russia's schemes for the extension of her influence in the Holy Land, the consequence of which not only endangers their ecclesiastical independence, but also places their very existence at stake. Russia has had ample proofs that she will never obtain any privileges or rights in the Holy Places as long as the Greek clergy are in power; therefore she has decided to endeavour to win to her side the native Greek population, who are not in sympathy with the Hellenes owing to the harsh treatment they receive at the hands of the latter. Russia has, consequently, succeeded so far, in supplanting at Damascus a Hellenic Patriarch by a native Greek, from whom she might expect many concessions as a reward for her support. The innovation thus obtained at Damascus through Russian influence is much feared by the Hellenic clergy in the East to be only a prelude to the appointment some day of Russian Patriarchs both at Damascus and Jerusalem. They have before them the mournful example of several Monasteries on Mount Athos, which once belonged to the Greeks, but were subsequently wrested from them by their Russian rivals. Russian activity in Syria and Palestine during the last few years in founding schools throughout the country in which the Tsar's name is greeted with reverential applause, in the spending of large sums of money, and also in the fact that all real property acquired in Palestine in Syria by Russian agents and by the Russian Palestine Society have lately been registered in the name of the Imperial Government, all tends to prove that Russia's object is the attainment of long cherished dreams of connecting the shores of the Black Sea with the Holy Land.

HEROISM ON THE ISMORE.

HOW THE TROOPS PREPARED TO DIE.

THE Capetown correspondent of the "Daily News" writes on Dec. 7th:—I have obtained the following particulars of the wreck of the transport Ismore. The officers of the Hussars say that the conduct of the soldiers during the critical time when everyone expected the vessel to go down was praiseworthy. Not a man but stuck to his post, and everyone was as cool as if on parade. There was no semblance of a panic at any time. The boats were long in being lowered. One was eventually got out and was filled with men, but sprang a leak. The men bailed for their lives, and another boat got to them just in the nick of time.

At six o'clock, to the great relief of all, boats came to the rescue from Paternoster. Three hours later every soldier had left the ship. A large amount of baggage was landed. The crew successfully endeavoured to keep the water away from the boilers by means of tarpaulins until they had cooled. They had only four minutes in which to save their lives. The crew worked like Trojans to save the baggage and the soldiers' kits. Everybody had quitted the ship at 9.30, with the exception of the ship's officers. At 2.30 the next morning the Ismore broke in two. All the saddlery and guns were lost, and only twenty horses were rescued out of three hundred and fifty.

Reuter on Dec 8 states: All hope of effecting the salvage of the Ismore has been abandoned. It is stated that the inhabitants at Paternoster Port, near the point of the same name, have for some time expected a disaster. Approaching Capetown from the north the trend of the coast-line suddenly changes in this vicinity, turning sharply to the west and north-west, and thus forming St. Helena Bay, in which the Ismore was lost. This westward curve of the coast ends abruptly at Paternoster Point, where the direction again turns to the south. Transports have twice been seen hugging the shore so closely as they passed this promontory that the inhabitants got boats ready to render assistance.

SMOKE "RICHMOND GEM"—Cigarettes in round air-tight tins of 50, of all Tobacconists.

THE BOER WAR.—DEVELOPMENT.

BY MAJOR-GENERAL H. M. BENGOUGH, C.B.

THERE can be no doubt but that the past week has been one of considerable public anxiety, more especially among those who are not accustomed to follow the progress of events in war. We are so habituated in the present day to rapid transmission of intelligence on all subjects of interest from all parts of the globe, that a cessation or restriction of news in a matter in which we are all so deeply interested creates a fear of disaster. The public readily assumes that news withheld covers bad news. And yet all admit the necessity for secrecy in maturing military plans, for the same facility of transmission that brings the daily supply of news to our breakfast tables may convey the same information to our enemy's camps in almost the same time. Impatience is perhaps natural, considering the personal as well as national interests concerned, but it is not reasonable. It has been asked, what is Sir Redvers Buller's plan of campaign? That is a question that is likely to receive no answer until events themselves reveal it, or in other words until the plan has developed into accomplished facts. The first step is however gradually unfolding itself. The several columns, east, west and centre, are slowly but surely forging forward, the enemy falling back before them in the stubborn, systematic manner that has characterised Boer tactics and which would seem to be their preconceived plan of campaign.

The two central columns, commanded respectively by Major-General French and Major-General Gatacre has clearly little to fear from the Boers from the district south of the Orange River, have not as yet made much progress. The reason of their comparative inaction is not easy to understand. Assuredly it does not rest with the commanders. It has been suggested that they are held back until Lord Methuen is in a position to combine with them in a movement on Bloemfontein, but on the other hand, it is not likely that there is now any considerable Boer forces in the Cape Colony, and an earlier advance of these two columns would undoubtedly have freed Lord Methuen from a good deal of anxiety for his line of communications. Late reports however announce that Major-General Gatacre is in movment, and we may expect shortly to see the central columns united at Springfontein Junction in the Free State, an important strategic point, as connecting the line from East London with that from Port Elizabeth; here they would control the situation as regards a movement on the Free State capital, and Major-General French's force, being a mounted body composed of cavalry regular and irregular collected from all parts of the Cape Colony, should prove invaluable in further operations northwards.

On the right flank there is a wise determination evident not to risk the opportunity of effecting a "grand coup" by a premature attack on the Boer position north of the Tugela. Although Lieutenant-General Clery has now twelve battalions of infantry and two brigade divisions of artillery at his disposal, he is still very weak in cavalry, and it would not be surprising if Sir Redvers Buller had decided to suspend an advance on this flank, even though it entailed a delay in the relief of Ladysmith, until the central and left columns should come into line and a really effective blow could be dealt against General Joubert's command.

Hitherto the heroism and dash of our men and the gallant leading of our officers, have been effectual in dislodging the enemy from position after position, though at a disproportionate loss to our own troops. Owing principally to want of numbers these victories, though they have clearly established the superiority of our fighting material, have been barren of anything like decisive results. We may now look to the time when a skilful combination of mobile, applied on extensive lines, may lead not only to a local tactical success, but to a complete, and it may be a final strategic victory.

There are already indications that the pressure due to the advance of the western columns is being felt, and it is reported that President Kruger, becoming anxious for the safety of Pretoria, desires the withdrawal of the troops from Ladysmith, such withdrawal could now now be effected in the face of a force under Sir Redvers Buller without loss, although General Joubert, by a timely retirement, may escape the disaster that would threaten him if he attempted to maintain the investment until our united columns should be in a position to co-operate against him.

The action on the Modder River on the 28th ult., for so long unintelligible in detail, has now been at least partially cleared up. It forms one more tribute to the gallantry of our troops, and proves that the Boers are as reluctant to make a resolute stand against artillery and rifle fire as against the bayonet. It also adds one more to our list of inconclusive, though by no means fruitless, engagements—not fruitless, for each occasion on which the enemy is driven from a position brings one step nearer to our goal. The Modder River Battle however comes within the list of dearly bought successes such as we are taught that skill and science ought to obtain for us at a lower cost.

A strongly intrenched position, five miles in extent on the further bank of a river of which the only bridge has been destroyed, having either flank protected by a village, held by forces superior in numbers, and defended by a well-served complete artillery, presents a sufficiently formidable obstacle. Two circumstances that would justify an attempt to force a passage in the face of such tactical superiority must be of exceptional urgency. Of that urgency the commander on the spot alone could judge.

There are certain tactical advantages that the conditions of the present campaign confer on us that our commanders do not appear to have adequately realised. These are the great containing power of modern rifle and artillery fire, and the fact that counter-attacks have no place in Boer tactics. These two factors render bold flanking movements permissible that would be hazardous in the case of a more enterprising opponent. It is true that the Boers have been driven from, but their method has hitherto been mainly utilized for retreat. We are told that at the action at Modder River the flanks of the position were unassailable, meaning probably that no direct flank attack could be delivered, but as the river was fordable, it is not clear why a turning movement could not have been effected under cover of our guns and rifles. These rather obvious considerations must have been present to the mind of Lord Methuen and his Staff, and the decision to adopt a purely frontal form of attack must have been based on conditions of which we are as yet ignorant.

A great deal has been said about the high proportion of losses among our officers in the battles of this campaign. This has been generally attributed to difference in the dress and arms of officers and men, and it has been proposed, and an order to that effect has, it is said, been issued in South Africa that officers shall be not only dressed but armed like the men. But before it is finally determined that officers shall cease to carry the weapon that has for so long and so universally been the recognised symbol of military rank and authority, it be may hoped that the question will receive very careful consideration. It is quite conceivable that the excessive loss that we have sustained in officers is due mainly to the use of smokeless powder, which causes the leaders in a fire fight to be conspicuously exposed to the enemy's rifles when leading their men in advances from cover to cover. It would seem to matter little whether the leader were officer or non-commissioned officer, whether he carried carbine or revolver, sword or walking-stick, for it is the action of rising and encouraging his men to go forward that exposes him to be shot down.

It is said that the Boers have deatlied marksman or sections in their ranks to pick out our officers and non-commissioned officers. It may be doubted if the nerves of the Boer marksman are sufficiently steady, or their shooting sufficiently accurate, to enable them to select their target with the coolness that this would indicate with themselves under fire. This view is supported by the list of killed and wounded at the battle of Modder River, where our line made no advance within a zone of 600 yards from the enemy's trenches; thus the exposure of leaders became unnecessary, and the loss of officers compared with that of men was small. By all means let all unnecessary distinction in dress and appointments be avoided, but the sword as a badge of rank has more than a mere sentimental value, and to degrade it to the level of an article of peace equipment would be to deprive it of all moral power, and to rob it of its ancient claim to represent the honourable profession of arms. This may be termed mere sentiment, but sentiment underlies much of the secret power that transforms men into heroes and insures victory. Even from a practical point of view a man may be glad to have a sword to fall back on when his revolver is emptied, and an enemy at close quarters. Lastly, the arming officers with a rifle or carbine may lead them to imagine that their duties in action are no longer to control and direct their men's fire, and by example, if necessary, lead them forward, but to engage in a competitive target practice with the enemy's sharp-shooters.

IN Congress on Dec 11, an amendment, presented by the Liberals with a view to oblige the Government to make more retrenchment, and reorganise effectively the Navy Estimates, was defeated by 131 to eighty-three votes. Both the Dissentient Liberals and Dissentient Conservatives took no part in the division because they did not wish to play into the hands of Senor Sagasta. The real strength of the Conservative Government, says the Madrid correspondent of the *Standard*, lies in the fact that the Oppositions are bitterly divided, and the Liberals themselves are prevented by dynastic and monarchical considerations from making more than a purely formal obstruction to the Cabinet, which they do not want to replace until all the financial and tributary questions are settled. It is now probable that the Government will get almost all the financial Bills voted before Jan. 1.

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THE MILITARY WORKING OF RAILWAYS.

As an army in the field has constant wants which cannot be supplied from the country in which it is operating, it is essential to its existance that it should maintain free and easy communication with its base depots. In all modern wars taking place in civilised countries, such main lines of supply are made along railroads; and where protracted operations in an uncivilised country are to be anticipated it is always simpler and more economical in the long run to lay down temporary lines, which, at the close of the campaign may either be removed or converted into permanent works. "Previous to an army embarking for the theatre of war," says the "Soldier's Pocket Book," in reference to a campaign in a civilised country well equipped with railroads, "every arrangement must be made for working the tracks which are to form the chief line of communication: much will depend upon whether the existing staff on such lines can be relied upon, or to what extent it will be necessary to supplement it, or whether it will have to be replaced altogether."

THE DIRECTOR OF RAILWAYS AND HIS COUNCIL.

In the composition of the army corps despatched to South Africa, these maxims have been fulfilled to the letter, for the authorities, having taken it for granted that the ordinary staff of the Cape Colony and Natal Railways will be available for working their systems while the war lasts have considered it unnecessary to organise and send out a complete technical establishment to take their places, but have reinforced the Railway Companies of the Royal Engineers, whose business it is to repair and work the lines while the latter are inside the zone of active hostilities by the mobilisation of those specially enlisted reservists from the principal railways works at home. Nevertheless as in time of war the civilian management of a railway utilised as a line of communication must be governed by military exigencies the two elements are harmoniously blended together by the establishment of a board or council, whose members are composed of the general manager and other high officials acting in conjuction with specially selected Engineer officers. Of course, the military department takes precedence over the civilian, and the senior military officer, who is called the "Director of Railways"—in Natal this post has been allotted to Major Girouard, late President of the Egyptian Railway Board—takes his orders from the "Director of Transport."

PROCEDURE OF THE COUNCIL.

The procedure in the councils of the board is something as follows:—The "Director of Transport" informs the "Director of Railways" that within a certain period so many troops or such an amount of stores must be conveyed by rail to a place named by him. Thereupon the "Director of Railways" summons his board, explains to them the nature of the concentration required, and, from the military point of view, advises how the difficulties of working may be adapted to the same. In general consultation then takes place, in which the civilian members make their suggestions, based upon familiarity with the capabilities and resources possessed by the line over which they preside. Assisted by this consultation, the "Director of Railways" finally formulates a scheme, which is immediately promulgated to the executive branch entrusted with the superintendence of its actual execution. The head of this branch is usually the traffic manager of peace time, to whom is now given high local or honorary rank and a place on the staff of the quartermaster-General. With the traffic manager rest the multifarious duties connected with the distribution of rolling-stock, the make-up of the military specials, the arrangements of the time-tables, the construction of temporary platforms at outlying and detraining points, the laying down of extra siding accommodation, and the prompt return of all "empties" to the base.

TRAFFIC AND LINE RECONSTRUCTION.

In such extraordinary circumstances the normal technical methods of working a line undergo considerable modification. It is usual, for example, to suspend the block system, and to conduct the traffic from a central bureau, presided over by a "train despatcher," who, on single tracks, arranges for the crossing of trains by means of "telegraphic crossing messages." Again, all military trains must be time at a very low rate of speed, this not so much on account of their length and weight, but in order to leave a good margin for exact punctuality. In the military working of railways a train that arrives before time is likely to cause as much confusion as one arriving late. Where a line has to be worked by the railway companies of the Royal Engineers, aided by labour detachments from other units, the quota detailed for the purpose must average at least one man per mile. In these circumstances, however—for the enemy cannot be far off, and has probably retreated along the track—a certain amount of reconstructive work is also to be anticipated. Hence all engaged should be divided into five distinct groups, namely, (1) bridging, (2) permanent way, (3) water and fuel, (4) masonry, and (5) staff of guards, drivers, firemen, and pointsmen. The duties to be performed by each explain themselves, but a few lines may be devoted to the nature of the repairs likely to be necessary.

BRIDGES AND TUNNELS.

To commence with, bridges wholly or partially destroyed present the greatest difficulty, for although spans not exceeding thirty feet may be temporarily bridged over by wood-en erections on what is known as the "double-lock" principle, longer gaps generally necessitate the use of steel work, girders and piers, which cannot be produced on the spot. Therefore, in this respect it is satisfactory to learn that the authorities have ready prepared sections of the more important railway bridges likely to be destroyed by the enemy in his retreat, and that these will be forwarded up country as fast as circumstances will permit. Secondly, the blowing in of a tunnel, provided the operation is effectually carried out (the French sappers bungled the business terribly in 1870), creates a well-nigh insuperable obstacle. Fortunately, there is only one tunnel to be encountered on our lines of advance—namely, the Laing's Nek, 2,213 feet long—and this, it is to be presumed, the Boers will eventually destroy. Here again, though, the authorities have foreseen the contingency, for as the contours of the ground are favourable to a light track being laid over the summit perforated, the necessary plant is ready waiting, and will not take long to put together. Rails are always torn up on curves, where their adjustment is much more difficult than on the straight. Bent rails can easily be straightened on the spot, but twisted ones must be re-rolled. Needless to say, all the tools required for the former operation are carried by the Construction Corps, while to replace the latter the Construction train is loaded with rods of spare rails, light steel sleepers, fish-plates and keys. In conclusion, it may be noted that the Austrians, who have experimented largely in the matter, have decided that it takes nine times as long to restore a line of railway as to demolish it, and this when the permanent way plant was simply removed and stacked alongside the line.

THE DEFENCE OF RAILWAYS.

The defence of railways is the last subject with which we are here concerned. It is folly attempting to guard a line by isolated sentinels or watchmen. The only efficient plan is to have flying columns composed of cavalry, mounted infantry, and machine guns posted at central points which must be constantly changed and that as secretly as possible. Tunnels, viaducts, and bridges, must be protected by a blockhouse at each end, equipped with machine or light field pieces. If possible the blockhouse should possess a searchlight, otherwise light balls will serve the purpose of enabling the small garrison to guard against the contingency of destruction attempted by night. The object of the blockhouse is merely to protect until the flying column arrives. Injury on the part of the inhabitants must be punished without mercy, and the local authorities who connive at the attacks upon trains or the breaks in communication can and should be brought up shortly by heavy contributions levied upon town or district as a fine for misbehaviour. There must be no squeamishness in dealing with such delinquents, since these harassing tactics on the part of non-combatants cannot affect the real issue of the campaign.—*Daily Graphic.*

MYSTERY IN ST. PETERSBURG.

AN ENGLISHMAN'S STRANGE DEATH.

A FEW days ago (says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the "Morning Post"), a man was found by the police lying helpless in one of the streets leading to the Warsaw Station in St. Petersburg. His only clothes were some ragged garments, such as are usually worn by the Russian peasants. His hat contained the name of an English maker, however, and he was taken to the office of the British Vice-Consul, where, though terribly frost-bitten and almost insensible from starvation and the maltreatment he had evidently received, he managed to explain that his name was James Mallard, and that he had been kidnapped by two men. Mallard's brother is foreman in some large engineering works in St. Petersburg, and the injured man had been for some days expected to arrive from England on business. His non-arrival had caused considerable anxiety, his luggage having duly reached the station. The unfortunate man has since tried without having sufficiently recovered consciousness to give any further information, and the police are as yet without any clue to the author of the crime of which it is clear he has been the victim.

MILITARY AND NAVAL NOTES.

THE strange story of a Boer privateer which comes from the Canaries proves that the Admiralty was wise in taking every possible precaution to protect the transports. The suspicious vessel is said to have been a cruiser built for Brazil but sold to some private individual about whom nothing could be learnt. I find it difficult to identify the vessel; seemingly it must have been the Maresciallo Deodoro, laid down at La Seyne, in France, in 1896, and launched in June of last year. That is the only cruiser which has recently been built for Brazil, and which is likely to have changed hands. She steams fifteen knots with forced and fourteen knots with natural draught, and carries two 9.4-in. guns in turrets fore and aft, two 6-in. howitzers, and four 4.7-in. quickfirers. She would certainly have been an awkward customer for any of the slow transports to meet, but the Niobe with her sixteen 6-in. quickfirers, kept an eye on her, and should have been equal to putting her out of action had there been any real trouble. The story comes from several different sources, and cannot be a pure invention.

Details of the nominally confidential gunnery returns for 1898 appear in the "Naval and Military Record," and are most disquieting, as they indicate that the lesson of the Spanish-American war has not yet been taken fully to heart. The percentage of hits for sixteen battleships with guns of from 10.25in. (110 tons) to 13.5in. (67 tons) is only 30, firing at the service target at ranges of from 1,400 to 2,000 yards, with a speed of eight knots: 307 rounds were fired, and 92 hits scored. The Rodney made 69 per cent. of hits—a splendid figure—and the Sans Pareil, with six rounds, no hits at all. Four other ships had very poor percentages, of from 12 to 17. In the Majestic class, the Prince George had only 13 per cent. of hits, whereas the Victorious had 52. Such differences can not be satisfactorily explained, except by the fact that in certain ships insufficient attention is given to gunnery. We hope that Admiral Rawson will turn his attention to the Prince George. In shooting with the 6-in. gun the Furious, also of the Channel Squadron, did badly. Her hits were only 13 per cent. Altogether there is room for vast improvement. Ships with under 30 per cent. of hits should be considered inefficient.

The Canopus has gone to the Mediterranean. This sadly-belated ship made her first appearence in the Estimates of 1896, was laid down in January, 1897, and was, it was understood, to be ready for sea in eighteen months. She should have commissioned in August or September, 1898. Instead of that she has been close upon three years, building or completing or over 3 1-2 years since she first figured in the Estimates. This indifferent result is largely due to the engineers' strike, but the fact that the dockyards are year by year becoming unequal to meeting the requirements of our modern navy has also contributed to it. We seem to be departing from the tradition of building our ships in two years, at the very time when France and Russia are straining every nerve to send their ships quickly to sea. We are told that the Montagu and Albemarle are to be much longer on the stocks than the London class. Why? If armour cannot be procured in time the day has come for the Admiralty to lay down an armour-making plant of its own.

What has become of the three new cruisers of great speed which figured in this year's programme? Nothing more has been heard of them, though it is now December. Yet ships to look after the new Russian Novik class are badly needed, and the Novik is to be delivered by the Schichau firm in September, 1900. Our cruisers, if the precedent of the Pandora is followed, will be ready about 1902 or 1903. Altogether a vigilant eye requires to be kept upon the execution of our shipbuilding programme, and upon the tendency to dawdle and delay our ships, which is now again manifesting itself.

Artillery questions are now greatly occupying the minds of all soldiers, and are likely to do so more and more as a result of the operations in South Africa. At the present time a discussion is in progress in France and Italy in regard to the constitution of batteries, one school contending that the increased power of the new guns, combined with rapidity of firing, makes four-gun batteries sufficient, the idea being that guns may more easily be either distributed or massed. The proposal is very strongly condemned in France by the "Progres Militaire" on the ground that the addition of power to a battery is a poor reason for diminishing the number of its guns. Major Melco, of the Italian Army, is at present discussing the question at great length in the "Rivista" "Militare" "Italiana." He argues that the tactical unit being no longer the battery but the brigade, it is necessary to provide for efficient command and direction. At the present time the Italian brigade division consists of four six-gun batteries, and occupies a front of 475 metres which, he thinks, makes it impossible for one officer to exercise immediate direction of the whole. He therefore advocates the union of small bodies of artillery under their own chief, as being easier to direct and command, and he urges the brigade division of three four-gun batteries as the best formation.

The Hon. Conrad Dillon and the Army Temperance Association are making arrangements to include the embodied Militia in the field of their labours. The effect which they have produced on the Regular Service has been most beneficial, and has all tended to promote its better reputation and higher efficiency. It cannot be doubted that similar results will follow their new efforts if commanding officers will lend their countenance and grant the desired facilities.

Recent events prove the truth of the opinion, frequently expressed in these columns, that there would be no lack of officers in the Militia if it were to receive more encouragement and more work. The applications for commissions have greatly increased since the embodiment was announced, and there can be no reason for longer delay in raising the whole force to that level which its best officers and best battalions already occupy. That there should be an earnest desire on the part of officers and men to stand side by side with the senior Service in South Africa is natural and proper, but the time is hardly ripe for that development. After a few months' steady training, and if the war is then still in progress, the despatch of a Militia division would do much to raise the status of the force. Nor is there any doubt that such a division would voluntarily step forward if asked for, and would worthily uphold the credit of the British infantry in whatever circumstances it might find itself.

The want of cavalry is as pressing in South Africa to-day as it was when Havelock was fighting his way from Allahabad to Lucknow. Had Lord Methuen been stronger in this arm it is more than likely his command would have been spared at least one of the heavy engagements which have marked their advance. General Gatacre and General Clery are also weak in cavalry, and so is Sir Redvers Buller. As if to emphasise the situation a transport with cavalry and artillary equipment on board went on the rocks last Sunday in Table Bay with disastrous consequences to the horses and guns. It is not easy to account for this state of things, seeing that the Boer has never been anything but a mounted soldier. To meet him on equal terms, therefore, we must have his mobility; yet, in accepting colonial offers of assistance, preference was given by the authorities to infantry. Many cavalry regiments in Natal would no doubt be a mistake, but mounted infantry is absolutely essential to success, and the more we have the better. Without it the mobility of the enemy will defeat some of our best efforts to crush them. Nearly all the mounted corps of the Cape Colony and Natal have been called out, and a body of scouts was raised within the past week. These, with the Imperial Light Horse, the Natal Carabiniers, and the South African Light Horse, are the theme of universal praise. Why more colonial roughriders, of whom there are thousands in the colonies, and more mounted infantry from England are not employed only the authorities can tell. As for the Australian and South African he can beat the Boer at his own game. At the outbreak of war the Transvaalers only feared, they said, the naval brigade and Baden-Powell's colonial roughriders. They were not far wrong.

A BURY St. Edmunds telegram says it transpires that Mr. E. W. Greene, Master of Staghounds, of Nether Hall, Bury St. Edmunds, met with a serious accident when out hunting with his staghounds on Friday, Dec. 9. His horse fell at a fence, and Mr. Greene was thrown over the animal's head, sustaining a fracture of some ribs and injury to his side.

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THE WOMAN'S VOTE.

"Should woman have a vote in politics?" is a question that is constantly cropping up. In some places, Wyoming for example, she has already obtained it, and it is interesting to observe how she uses it to vote for the good against the bad. Her power of discrimination is very great. Note how she appreciates Van Houten's Cocoa. Wherever she has tried it, she has immediately pronounced it to be absolutely the best! And this without hesitation. The reason is evident enough.

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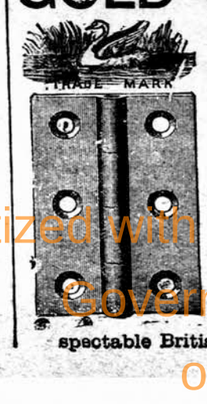
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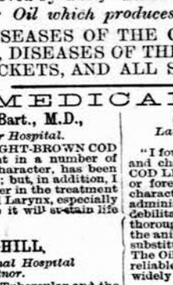
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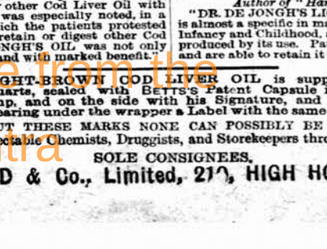

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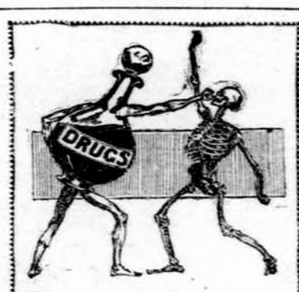

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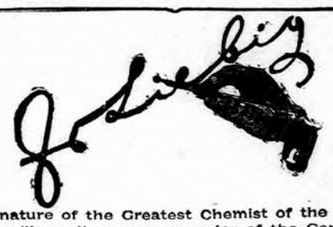

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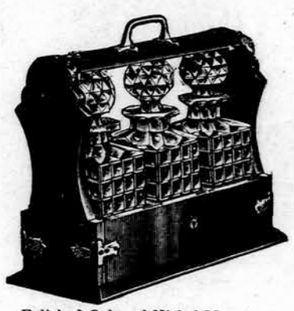

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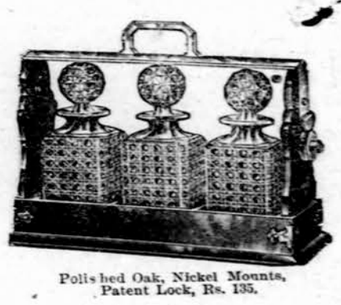

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